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OPINION METER

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intend to spend
Thanksgiving
this year?

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INSIDE



Viral Video

Was California police use of pepper spray non-violent Occupy Wall Street protesters justified?

NATION...Page 16



New Album

Rihanna can 'Talk That Talk,' but can she walk the walk?

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

Ex-BMV official gets 6 months for driver's license scam

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

William A. Hocog, a former supervisor at the Department of Public Safety's Bureau of Motor Vehicle, was slapped

with a six-month prison term yesterday for his role in a driver's license scam.

"I agree with the prosecution. You are the most culpable of the five defendants in this case," U.S. District Court for the NMI

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona told Hocog.

Manglona said that Hocog, as then a public servant, breached the public's trust and his oath when he conspired with his co-defendants to unlawfully

produce and transfer CNMI driver's licenses.

Hocog remains temporarily free until a federal prison where he will be incarcerated is designated.

After serving his sentence,

Hocog will be placed on three years of supervised release. He was also required to pay a \$100 court assessment fee and perform 100 hours of community service.

Before being sentenced,
See EX-BMV on Page 4

Long lines at US post office

» Crush of parole requests, CW petitions create long wait times



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

If you are thinking of sending or receiving regular mail or package at the post office in Chalan Kanoa, scrap any thought that it will be a quick duck-in and duck-out trip.

Hundreds have been patiently lining up at the post office in the past few days, mostly those beating the Nov. 27 deadline for filing parole requests or Commonwealth-only worker status petitions with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Guam or California.

Teddy de Luna, 48, was one of those lining up at the post office to mail his request for parole with USCIS, hoping he could be given legal status to remain in

See LONG on Page 4

Mobil cuts gas prices by 5 cents a gallon

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan motorists have one other thing to be thankful for this Thanksgiving: A 5-cent a gallon reduction in gas prices.

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands reduced by 5 cents a gallon its regular and premium unleaded gasoline at 3pm yesterday.

See MOBIL on Page 4

If CW petitions are filed after Nov. 28...

- Jobless aliens with parole cannot work until grant of status if CW is filed after Nov. 28
- Employers who file CW after Nov. 28 cannot let their foreign employees work until CW status is granted
- 1,405 CW1 workers sponsored as of Nov. 18

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While aliens with either umbrella permits or have valid paroles can continue working as their Commonwealth-only worker petitions are being adjudicated, there are limited options for aliens who are still jobless by Nov. 28 or those who are employed but whose CW petitions

will be filed after Nov. 28.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regional media manager Marie Therese Sebrechts gave *Saipan Tribune* yesterday information related to certain nonresidents still without jobs by Nov. 28 and the filing of CW petitions after Nov. 28.

Aliens who are currently employed but whose employer file See IF CW on Page 4

\$5M hospital billing backlog uncovered. PAGE 2
Energy use drops by 20M kilowatts in FY 2011. PAGE 5

Local

\$5M hospital billing backlog uncovered

» Corporation to review current contract of Guam-based billing firm

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and CNMI Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta uncovered up to \$5 million in unpaid billings at the Commonwealth Health Center yesterday morning.

Babauta said the pile of records were documents that have not been decoded yet for issuance of billings to patients. He said these documents were all stored in a big table that sat neglected for many years.

Babauta said that CHC has an estimated \$52 million in collectibles from patients and only "a very small portion" of it is considered collectible.

He said the bulk of the \$52 million are past the statute of limitations and must be written off the corporation's books.

Saipan Tribune learned that majority of the backlog covers unpaid accounts dating back from May 2005. Inos said the accounts represent all the services that have been provided to

patients but were not collected and paid to the hospital.

"From the \$52 million estimated uncollectibles, only a very small percentage is collectible," Babauta said, because majority are covered by the six-year statute of limitation.

Inos, who expressed himself not surprised at seeing the billing backlog yesterday, said that Babauta has hired an assistant who will look into the pile of records exclusively to determine if these are recoverable. To make the hospital billing section efficient, Inos said a serious revamping is needed.

Inos also talked to personnel

of the billing department yesterday to get more information on how the processing can be sped up.

"As I observed this morning, the billing has started to come around. It's just that it's based on an antiquated system that need serious revamping. The CEO has hired an assistant who will exclusively look into those documents, at least until the things here are all operational and going," Inos said.

Saipan Tribune learned that CHC has only one coder assigned each for in-patient and outpatient sections.

Inos emphasized that the healthcare corporation will scrutinize all the backlogged documents to come up with ac-



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, discusses some hospital issues and concerns with Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta, left, and acting director for Medical Affairs Dr. Dan Lamar after the officials' visit to the facility yesterday.

curate billings that will result in less disputes, less appeals, and will expedite payments from patients.

Besides the billings and record department, Inos and Babauta also inspected the hospital laboratory and checked on the inventory of supplies and equipment, among others.

Inos assured the administration's continued collaboration with the corporation until everything is settled.

He said the administration wants to prevent what happened when the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. transitioned from the Department of Public Works and inherited a huge deficit, resulting in CUC being placed under an emergency declara-

tion for many years.

Prior to the corporation's takeover on Oct. 1, the Department of Public Health had a contract with Guam Marianas Collection Agency to issue billing statements to CHC patients. Collection, meantime, remains the function of CHC.

Babauta said the contract with the billing agency is up for the board's review. "We have to review that contract to make sure that we will benefit from it and if not, we will do some changes. Our challenge now is really our backlog," he said.

With the numerous challenges at the hospital, Babauta said any expectations that it will all be resolved overnight is "totally unrealistic."

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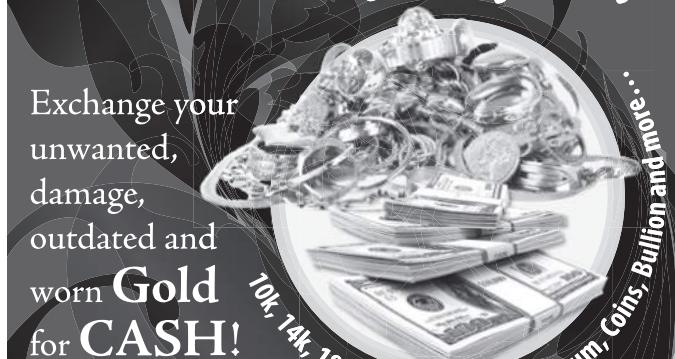
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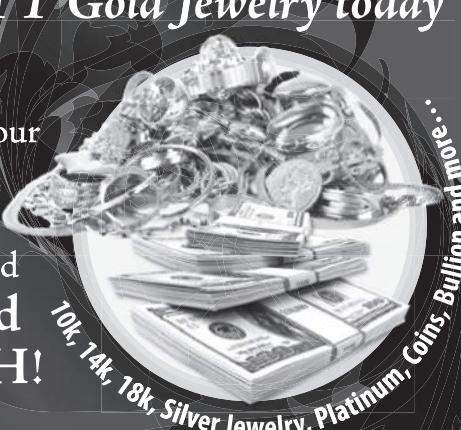
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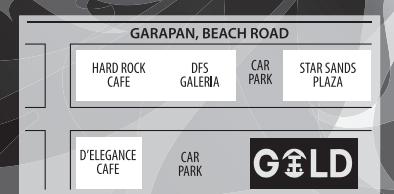


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Initiative seeks to transfer MPLT earnings to the Fund

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A legislative initiative wanting to transfer all earnings and income of the Marianas Public

Land Trust to the NMI Retirement Fund may face constitutional challenges, according to MPLT board of trustees.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona's Legislative Initia-

tive 17-14 proposes to amend Article 11 of the CNMI Constitution to provide for the transfer of funds from MPLT to the Retirement Fund.

Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the intention is to address the Fund's unfunded liability that, if not resolved, will stop paying out retirement benefits before 2014.

The Fund earlier disclosed that its unfunded liability is estimated at over \$900 million as of April this year. This means that for every dollar the Fund owes beneficiaries, only about 36 percent is funded.

It was also disclosed that for the Fund to be fully funded until 2045, it needs about \$860 million in investment funds. As of last week, the Fund's portfolio was valued at \$264 million only and the unfunded liability

continues to increase.

Manglona's initiative will require MPLT trustees to transfer to the NMI Retirement Fund "all interest, dividends, and other gains upon the trust corpus on a quarterly basis at all times during which the Fund maintains an unfunded liability..."

The MPLT board described as confusing the language of the legislative initiative pertaining to "all interests, dividends, and other gains." The agency's portfolio is currently valued at \$71 million.

The board's legal counsel, Robert Torres, said the legislation will trigger Covenant issues because, for one, there is a standing agreement with regards to the interest received for the lease of property at Tanapag Harbor, which is for the devel-

opment and maintenance of the American Memorial Park. MPLT, he added, also already obligated some of its monies for certain purposes.

Board trustee Pete Cruz said the legislation is also unclear because MPLT has two trust funds: the general fund and the memorial park fund.

"Which fund are they talking about? Is it the general fund where we remit the monies for government or the memorial park fund?" he told colleagues.

The bill, he said, is also unclear on which "gain" it is referring to. "Does this mean that all monies that should go to the general fund will now be remitted instead to the Retirement Fund for its unfunded liability?" he asked.

MPLT executive director Bruce MacMillan said the ini-

tiative also theoretically implies that every time MPLT realizes net gains on stocks or bonds, these should be distributed. However, in the event of losses, MPLT has to absorb them.

The board believes the initiative is unnecessary because the Legislature can already give MPLT's income on interest to the Retirement Fund through the budget appropriation every year.

Due to several questions related to the initiative, the board decided to talk the matter over with Manglona.

A 2009 court judgment had determined that the government owes the Fund over \$231 million in unpaid employer contributions. The proposed remittance of MPLT revenue to the Fund aims to pay for this government obligation.

OAG plans to change charges vs Mrs. Pai

The Office of the Attorney General is planning to change the charges it filed against Joanna C. Pai.

At yesterday's status conference, assistant attorney general Shelli Neal told the Superior Court about the government's intent to file an amended information.

Associate judge Perry B. Inos set for Dec. 20, 2011, the hearing on Mrs. Pai's motion to dismiss the case and motion for discovery.

Inos gave the government until Monday to file the amended information.

Mrs. Pai appeared with counsel, former attorney general Rexford Kosack.

In their motion to dismiss, Kosack stated that the only reason Mrs. Pai has been charged is

that she is married to Public Auditor Michael Pai, who has attracted the ire of Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham.

Mrs. Pai earlier pleaded not guilty to a count of theft of utility services. She is being accused of allegedly stealing utility services amounting to over \$51,000.

In the motion to dismiss, Kosack noted that Mrs. Pai is not a customer as the utility account is in the name of another person. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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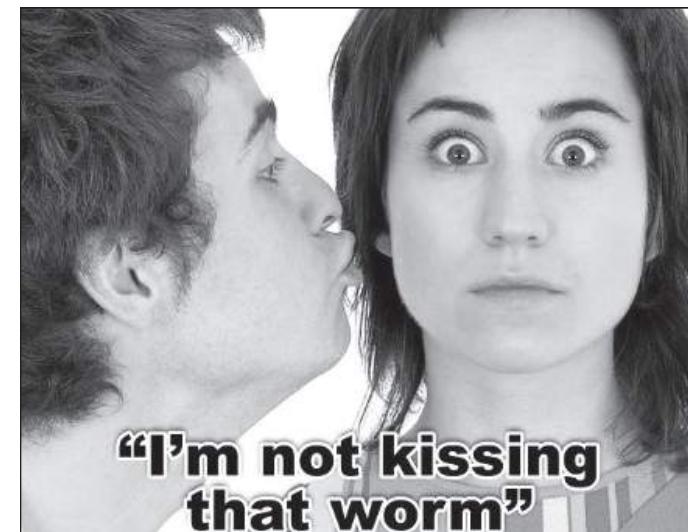
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Losing candidates ordered to pay Rota officials over \$17K

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has ordered the two losing candidates for the House of Representatives and mayoral races in the November 2009 election to pay a total of \$17,116 in attorneys' fees and costs to the prevailing parties in the poll challenge—Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola and Rota Sen. Juan M. Ayuyu.

Naraja ordered former Rota representative Victor Hocog to pay Mayor Mendiola \$10,046.25 and also directed Ross Hugh Songao Manglona to pay senator Ayuyu \$7,069.75.

In an order issued Thursday,

Naraja said he finds both Mendiola's and Ayuyu's calculation of attorney fees and costs reasonable.

On Aug. 29, 2011, Naraja found the election contest in favor of Mendiola and Ayuyu with respect to attorney fees. He ordered their lawyers to submit a bill of fees and costs to the court.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for Mendiola, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the order awarding attorneys' fees now directs their compensation and that they look forward to receiving the funds in defending the election.

"This election contest was costly for Mayor Mendiola and

Senator Ayuyu to vindicate their seats to office by virtue of a proper election result despite a recount," Torres said.

Ross Manglona and Hocog had sued for the recount, saying the Election Commission didn't follow procedures when counting the Rota ballots.

Manglona sued his lone rival in the election, Teresita Apatang Santos, who was elected to a House seat. He also named defendants the two winners in the Senate seat for Rota: Jovita M. Taimanao and Juan Ayuyu.

In a separate lawsuit, Hocog, an independent candidate for mayor of Rota, sued the winning candidate, Melchor Mendiola. The two lawsuits

were consolidated.

On Dec. 9, 2009, Naraja upheld the Nov. 7 election results for the House and mayoral races on Rota and dismissed the lawsuits.

Manglona and Hocog appealed to the CNMI Supreme Court.

The CNMI Supreme Court ordered the recount, citing the Election Commission's violation of election law. The recount focused only on the votes for the Rota mayor, senator, and representatives.

On Jan. 8, 2010, the Election Commission completed its recount and reached the same original results: Mendiola and Ayuyu prevailed.

will be held today, from 10am to 12pm, at the same place.

During the sessions, Gulick goes over the Form I-129CW page by page and answers questions from employers regarding the petition process and related matters.

No break in employment

Sebrechts said "it seems that most employers who intend to petition for CW-1 workers before Nov. 28 have the application packages ready to go before Nov. 28, 2011."

"Employers who want to continue employing their current workers without a break in employment must file by Nov. 27," Sebrechts said. "Employers may still file after that date; however, the continuing employment provision only applies to those umbrella permit holders who were filed for prior to Nov. 28."

The Nov. 27 deadline remains as U.S. Congress didn't initiate any move to extend the deadline before going into recess, and won't be back in session until Nov. 29.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan said there's no chance of a "legislative fix" because Congress is in recess.

Hoping for parole

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said the U.S. Department of Homeland Security can still exercise "administrative remedy" by granting parole-in-place for all legal aliens in the CNMI by Nov. 27 or Nov. 28.

Syed said Occupy USCIS will continue its peaceful vigil near USCIS office in Garapan until Nov. 27 or later, depending

on the situation after Nov. 27.

Edith Ranoco, a nonresident on Saipan for 16 years and whose umbrella permit expires on Nov. 27 without a prospective new employer, said she is now considering applying for humanitarian parole with USCIS.

"If there's still a chance for me to stay here, I will stay here. But I am still hoping I will be able to find a new employer," she said.

Since she does not have a U.S. citizen child, she does not pin her hope on Sablan's HR 1466, but wishes that the bill will be changed to include long-term legal nonresidents with or without U.S. citizen children.

Ranoco said she has yet to actually collect \$15,400 in federal court award from a former garment employer for unpaid wages, interests, and penalties.

Others interviewed who also do not have jobs and do not have parole said while they are aware that they could be out of status after Nov. 27 or after Nov. 28, they won't leave the CNMI unless the federal government asks them to leave.

Helen Sembrano, 53, said she's not hoping for HR 1466 though she has a 13-year-old U.S. citizen daughter because her employer has already filed a CW petition for her.

Sembrano said if the CW petition is denied or if she really has to leave the CNMI, then she and her husband would just go back to the Philippines and work there.

1,405 aliens petitioned so far

As of Nov. 18, Friday, 1,405 CW-1 workers had been sponsored on 777 Form I-129CW petitions, Sebrechts said.

By his actions, Backe said, Hocog was telling the public that BMV was for sale. "Giving him a jail sentence will promote respect of the law," Backe said.

Hocog used to be the supervisor at BMV's Records and Firearms Section. He pleaded guilty in June to count 1 of the indictment that charged him with conspiracy to unlawfully produce and transfer CNMI driver's licenses.

Sun and Yan introduced foreign nationals as driver's license applicants to the Miah couple in order for the applicants to obtain a driver's license unlawfully with the help of Hocog.

The applicants were each required to pay between \$230 and \$400 directly to Sun and Yan in order to receive the driver's license.

The final worker rule estimates 13,399 foreign workers in the CNMI who are "potentially eligible" for CW status.

The 1,405 aliens so far petitioned are only about 10 percent of those estimated to be "potentially eligible" for CW status.

However, because many employers indicated during interviews that they will file the CW petitions this week, the number is expected to grow.

Sebrechts said the CW petitions received through Nov. 18 were filed by 241 employers.

She said 12 of those petitions have been rejected because of using the old version of the form; submission of incorrect fee; and submission of mutilated or altered check as payment.

In addition, although not calculated within the number of CW petitions received as they were "not" I-129CW petitions, Sebrechts said "it seems a few 'regular' I-129 petitions were rejected because they actually requested the CW classification."

Sebrechts said it is too early to give approval and denial numbers for I-129CW "because biometrics and any background checks must be completed before the petitions are adjudicated and then approved or denied."

USCIS has also granted more than 3,000 parole.

The CNMI has been facing an unprecedented series of events since the federal government took over local immigration on Nov. 28, 2009.

A transitional worker program is currently in place but it will end on Dec. 31, 2014. After that, the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act requirements become fully applicable in the CNMI.

Yan All have pleaded guilty.

According to the prosecution, from April 16 to June 18, 2010, Hocog and his four co-defendants conspired to unlawfully produce and transfer CNMI driver's licenses.

Sun and Yan introduced foreign nationals as driver's license applicants to the Miah couple in order for the applicants to obtain a driver's license unlawfully with the help of Hocog.

The applicants were each required to pay between \$230 and \$400 directly to Sun and Yan in order to receive the driver's license.

LONG

From Page 1

the CNMI after Nov. 27, while he applies for a "green card."

"I didn't expect that this day will come, when we could lose our status to stay here," de Luna said in an interview while in line.

He and his U.S. citizen wife got married in 1991 but they have not filed a "green card" for him until now. If he doesn't request for parole by Nov. 27, he could lose status to remain in the CNMI. He said even a two-month parole will be a big help to raise some \$2,000 for his green card application.

Edison Serrano, 44, said he had been undecided for a long time whether he would file a parole request or wait until he finds an employer, based on advice he had been getting from different individuals and experts.

"So now I am here. I'm trying my luck that I could get parole," he said, falling in line past 1pm and not expecting to reach the post office counter until after 2pm because of the long line.

Customs agent Joe Santos, stationed at the post office in Chalan Kanoa, said he has never seen such long lines at the post office in his nine years with Customs Services Division.

He said a lot of people have already lined up outside the post office before the regular opening at 8:30am, and long after the regular closing hours of 4pm.

"My question is, why did they wait this long to send requests?" Santos said.

Loida Oliver, 51, said she's filing a request for parole with USCIS so she could be with her U.S. citizen child beyond Nov. 27. She has not had a job for years to take care of her U.S. citizen child who has a disability. She came to Saipan in 1991 to work as a house worker.

Oliver said she and her common-law husband have not been married, so she couldn't be petitioned for a CW-2 status. She said her only hope is to be granted parole that will allow her to stay in the CNMI, and hopefully until Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) HR 1466 becomes law.

The bill grants CNMI-only resident status to four groups of aliens, including parents of U.S. citizen children.

Md. Masud Rana, 41, was

also in line at the post office to buy \$1,595 worth of money order for his green card application, which he also intended to file yesterday.

He said he will stay in line no matter how long it takes. Rana came to Saipan in 1995 to work as a sales agent. He just got married this month to a U.S. citizen and they immediately worked on his green card application.

Also trapped in the long line were those sending mails or packages and those claiming packages, among others.

Extended hours

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) requested the U.S. Postal Service to extend the retail operating hours at its Chalan Kanoa branch on Saipan through the evening of Nov. 28, 2011, owing to the Nov. 27 deadline for filing CW petitions and parole requests. (*See related story on Page 13*)

USPS granted Sablan's request, based on a Nov. 21 letter from acting manager of Post Office Operations-Honolulu District Gregory Kawasaki.

The extended retail operating hours will start today and end on Monday night.

Today and Friday's operating hours will be extended by one hour. The retail lobby will close at 5pm rather than the normal closing hour of 4pm.

USPS will be closed on Thursday for Thanksgiving holiday.

On Saturday, Nov. 26, post office hours will be extended by four hours. Instead of closing at 12pm, they will close at 4pm.

Post offices are closed on Sundays.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the post office will have a two-hour extension. The retail lobby will close at 6pm rather than 4pm.

"You have my assurance that all mail deposited by midnight, Nov. 28, 2011, will receive a Nov. 28, 2011, postmark," USPS's Kawasaki told Sablan.

Kawasaki also encouraged foreign workers to use the retail services of USPS' two contract postal units on Capital Hill and San Vicente.

The Capital Hill unit is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm, and Saturday from 9am to 12pm.

The San Vicente unit is open from 12pm to 5pm, and Saturday from 12pm to 3pm.

"It should be less than \$4," he said in an interview last night while buying \$10 gas for his sedan. He said a \$10 gas will last one to two days, depending on where he drives.

Ajoste, just like other motorists, didn't notice the 5-cent drop in prices until he was asked about it.

The last time Saipan motorists had a gas price change was in July—a 10-cent a gallon increase in pump prices of regular and super gasoline and diesel.

Retail pump prices are affected by a combination of factors, which include internationally traded wholesale prices, operating and capital cost, distribution costs, taxes and duties, currency exchange rates, and market competition.

EX-BMV

From Page 1

Hocog apologized to the court, to the CNMI and U.S. governments, the community, former co-workers, and to family members and relatives, for the crimes he committed.

"I paid the price. It will never happen again. I totally regret it. I lost my career," Hocog said.

He begged the judge for a probation sentence. "Give me a second chance. I swear to you this kind of action will never happen again."

EX-BMV

From Page 1

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WITH NMI CONSUMERS REDUCING USAGE

Energy consumption drops by 20M kilowatts in FY 2011

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Power users in the CNMI used 20 million kilowatts less in fiscal year 2011 compared to previous fiscal year, mainly due to the declining number of residents, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren said that many residents have relocated from the islands and many businesses have shut down, resulting in the drop in power usage.

Agency records show that CUC recorded a total of 254,906,034 kilowatts consumed by all customers in fiscal year 2010. In fiscal year 2011, which ended on Sept. 30, the utilities company posted only 233,935,181 kilowatts sold to consumers. This is a 20.9 million difference, or 8.23 percent drop in the total volume of energy used in fiscal year 2010.

Customers' count also dramatically declined by 6.56 percent. Records show that there were

a total of 15,460 CUC customers in fiscal year 2010 but that number dropped to 14,446 when fiscal year 2011 ended a few months ago. This means CUC lost a total of 1,014 customers during the 12-month period.

Based on CUC findings, average customer use was also down in the last two fiscal years. From 1,360 kilowatt-hour average use of a customer in fiscal year 2010, this dropped to only 1,306 kilowatt-hour last fiscal year 2011—an almost 4-percent decline.

According to Warren, the reduction in volume of energy sold to customers is the result of fewer customers and the decreasing energy use of the remaining customers.

"It is our impression that the decrease in customers is the result of the weak economy, with businesses and individuals leaving the islands," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

CUC records show that the reduction in power use applies across all types of CUC customers.

Among commercial users, CUC lost 87 customers last fiscal year, dropping from 2,846 customers in fiscal year 2010 to only 2,759 customers in 2011—a 3-percent decline. Their energy consumption also dropped significantly from 2010's 131 million kilowatts to only 121 million kilowatts last fiscal year, an almost 10-million drop in energy consumption. Commercial customers also reduced their average consumption from 3,825 kilowatts monthly to 3,596 kilowatts—a reduction of 229 kilowatts.

Among government customers, CUC lost six accounts last fiscal year, from 891 government accounts in 2010 to 885 accounts in 2011. Overall, volume usage of government accounts dropped by 3.3 million kilowatts—from 46 million kilowatts in 2010 to 43 million kilowatts in 2011. This translates to a 7-percent reduction in total volume sold.

Among residential customers, CUC posted 7.86-percent decline

in the number of total accounts, from 11,723 in 2010 to only 10,802 last fiscal year or a difference of 921 residential accounts.

The volume of energy sold to residential customers also dipped by 7 million from 76 million kilowatts in 2010 to

only 69 million kilowatts in 2011—a 9.91-percent loss. Average usage of customers under this classification also dropped in the 12-month period from 545 kilowatts in 2010 to only 515 kilowatts last fiscal year—a drop of 31 kilowatts.

CUC earlier said that it will file an emergency petition before Dec. 8 to increase the electric base rate due to these factors and the increased employer contribution rate being enforced by the NMI Retirement Fund starting this fiscal year.

Acting governor OKs \$41,813 for Tinian

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos signed into local law on Monday a measure that appropriates \$41,813 for Tinian patients and school expenses.

The amount was collected from poker and pachinko slot machine license fees on Tinian.

Inos signed House Local Bill 17-59, Draft 1 into Tinian Local Law 17-8.

Of the total amount, \$27,000 goes to the monthly subsistence allowance of Tinian patients on dialysis, with cancer, multiple sclerosis, debilitating epilepsy seizure disorder, dermatomyositis, and post-cerebral vascular accident patients with permanent neurologic deficit.

The remaining \$14,813 goes

to Tinian Elementary School to cover expenses related to the Chamorro Language Competition in Guam.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), author of the local bill, said yesterday he's thankful for the acting governor "for his understanding and consideration on the expeditious signing" of his local bill. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)



"Diabetes can no longer be ignored!"

*International Diabetes Federation



This year in recognition of Diabetes Awareness Month, the International Diabetes Federation is stressing the growing need for diabetes education and prevention programs because the statistics they have are quite alarming:

- Diabetes kills 1 person every 8 seconds.
- There are 1 million amputations a year as a result of having diabetes.
- Diabetes doesn't discriminate:
It affects young and old; rich and poor; men and women. It may affect YOU or someone you love!



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Rota begins work on survey to decide site of new landfill

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The municipality of Rota is now working on conducting a survey on the land that will serve as the site for its landfill.

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola said the land is located in the Tatachog area.

"We're doing now this survey—geological, historical—and we have to go through all those procedures and process but the plan is already on the move to open a new landfill, which is just adjacent to the existing [open] dump," he said Friday.

Mendiola noted that there are private lands in the area so they are communicating with landowners "for an exchange" or to compensate them financially. "That is in the works now."

According to Mendiola, the

municipality has a solid waste fund that "might be underfunded."

They plan to start with the project by phases with what they have and "as we move along, perhaps then we can request again for appropriation or perhaps seek federal funds," said Mendiola.

The Division of Environmental Quality had earlier issued the Rota Mayor's Office, along with the Tinian Mayor's Office and the Department of Public Works, an administrative order for failure to comply with landfill operating requirements.

DEQ ordered the two municipal offices to terminate the burning of wastes at their respective dumps, cover disposed solid waste with at least 12 inches of earth cover, and begin applying daily cover within 14 days from the date of the order. Failure to

abide by the order's provisions would result in a civil fine of \$100 per violation per day.

"We're addressing it [the ad-

ministrative order] and we're passing," said Mendiola. "Unfortunately, it's in the slow phase because of the financial

situation but we're meeting their requirements gradually."

Asked if they have paid any fines to DEQ, Mendiola replied,

"Not yet. We're trying to comply as much as possible. They saw the improvements so that's how we move now."

CUC staff undergoes defensive driver training

Forty-five Commonwealth Utilities Corp. employees were trained in defensive driving by the Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section.

Among the training participants were CUC meter readers and personnel from the water and wastewater and power divisions. All participants drive company vehicles in carrying out their daily work assignments.

Sgt. Anthony I. Macaranas conducted the 16-hour training

consisting of classroom instructions and field training that included a wide range of subjects, including vehicle maintenance, driving conditions, emergency response, proper maneuvering, and parking.

Diego Kaipat, a trade assistant for two years at the wastewater treatment plant, said, "It's good that we are put through this training because there are many things that we never knew about the rules of

the road and now we do."

George Blas, wastewater collections specialist for over eight years, was also among the trainees. "We were all taught to drive by different people and when we go out on the road, we drive the way we were taught. Now that we have undergone this professional training, we now see and understand how we are really supposed to be driving our private cars and especially government vehicles."

Greg Burkett, CUC's training coordinator, said that providing 24-hour service to customers requires CUC personnel to be on the road at all hours of the day and night. Safety training in this area, he said, contributes to the safety of all, and can be lifesaving.

CUC is working with DPS to certify more CUC employees and to provide additional safety related trainings for its personnel on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. (*Moneth Deposa*)

Salvation Army to kick off fundraising activity

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

'Tis the season for the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle.

The international faith-based organization is set to kick off its annual fundraising activity on Nov. 25 and will wrap up on Dec. 24 or Christmas Eve.

Established in 1891 by a Salvation Army captain in San Francisco, the Christmas Kettle program—widely known as the Red Kettle—involves kettle ringers ringing bells throughout the holiday season to solicit spare change from holiday shoppers.

Salvation Army ministry leader Wayne Gillespie said their kettle ringers will greet shoppers with "Happy holidays" through Dec. 3, after which they will be greeting them with "Merry Christmas."

"Our primary kettle site will be Joeten Superstore and our Kettle Ringers will also have food boxes beside their kettles for those who wish to donate non-perishable food," said Gillespie.

able food," said Gillespie.

Gillespie said they will also conduct the Angel Tree program, an important part of their annual toy drive wherein local stores, banks, and other establishments are invited to set up and decorate Christmas trees and ask customers to donate Christmas gifts for the less fortunate by placing their gifts under the Angel Tree.

He said Bank of Hawaii has agreed once again to become an Angel Tree sponsor. He is inviting churches, schools, and other interested groups to also sign up as an Angel Tree sponsor and help with the food and toy drives.

"The Salvation Army is always in need of food donations, in order to supply our food assistance programs and the food drives conducted during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are important because they shore up dwindling supplies," said Gillespie.

For more information, call 483-0885.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR Yard Maintenance Service for property Sinapalo, Rota

RFP 12-01

SERVICES REQUIRED

The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT), a public trust of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands requests proposals from interested persons/firms to provide yard maintenance services for MPLT property located in Sinapalo subdivision, Rota. Interested parties are kindly requested to call 3224401/4402 for information on the property location.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Provide onetime general clean-up (removal and disposal of over-grown vegetation) followed by a monthly yard maintenance service.

PACKAGES & SUBMITTAL DATE

Please submit letter of interest to include a onetime general clean-up rate and monthly rate to the attention of Barbara Reyes, Office Manager, Marianas Public Land Trust P.O. Box 501089, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, November 30, 2011.

Interested parties are welcome to conduct a survey of the site.

This public notice is also available on our website at www.mplt.gov.mp. Interested parties are asked to contact Ms. Barbara Reyes Monday-Friday between 8:00am to 5:00pm or email mplt@mplt.gov.mp

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1-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$650.00 ~ **NOW \$500.00 ~**
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$850.00 ~ **NOW \$650.00 ~**
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, where 747 Dining & Bar is situated

AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-duty security guard at night
- On-site maintenance
- Parking space
- Swimming pool

PASTEL INN APARTMENT

STUDIO-TYPE : REG PRICE - \$350.00 ~ **NOW \$250.00 ~**
2-BEDROOM : REG PRICE - \$550.00 ~ **NOW \$400.00 ~**
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: SAN JOSE, right next to Roshi's Store (along Beach Rd)

AMENITIES:

- 24-hr water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit w/ balcony
- Free moving-service
- Laundry facility
- On-site maintenance
- Broad parking space (front area and backside)
- Spacious yard
- Swimming pool w/ BBQ area

YOUNGS BUILDING

COMMERCIAL SPACE: REG PRICE - \$800.00 ~ **NOW \$500.00 ~**
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: GARAPAN Middle Road, where Pacific Quick Print is situated

AREA: 760 sq ft per unit (2nd FLOOR ONLY)

AMENITIES:

- Parking space
- Common waste container



SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

AVAILABLE UNITS: Studio-type and 1-Bedroom
PRICE ranges from \$350.00~
(Power and Water EXCLUDED)

LOCATION: Lower Miha, GARAPAN, nearby 747 Dining & Bar

AMENITIES:

- 24-hr drinkable (Reverse Osmosis) water supply
- Back-up generator
- Common waste container
- Furnished unit
- Free moving-service
- Parking space
- Swimming pool
- Tennis court
- Washer and Dryer in the unit

We also accommodate Daily, Weekly or Monthly basis.

For further details: You can visit ATOM's CO., LTD. office, located in Garapan, Saipan. Our office hour is 9:00 am to 6:00 pm on weekdays and 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm on weekends. You can also contact us thru phone at 233-8880 or send us an e-mail at atoms@pticom.com

ATOM'S
MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING
233-8880

NMHC mulls outsourcing review of housing tax credit program

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. is looking at outsourcing the compliance and review process for its Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program.

During Monday's board meeting, corporate director Joshua Sasamoto reported to the board that he came up with the idea after attending a LIHTC symposium in New York sponsored by Spectrum Enterprises, which for over 25 years has been providing compliance monitoring services as the authorized delegate for state housing agencies.

"I am happy to report that it went better than I was even hoping for," said Sasamoto who arrived back from the symposium yesterday morning.

Sasamoto said he was able to talk one-one-one with representatives of Spectrum Enterprises, which has done compliance monitoring services for seven states, including Hawaii, which they have been servicing since the early '90s.

According to Sasamoto, Spectrum Enterprises is also working now with American Samoa, another territory that, like the CNMI, began its LIHTC program just last year.

"The point about that is they do this for a living," said Sasamoto. "They're insiders; they know all the insiders."

Should the services of Spectrum Enterprises be employed, Sasamoto said NMHC "won't

have to pay out of pocket" since the monitoring fees for LIHTC units can pay for it.

Sasamoto said the experts he talked to during his trip agreed that a \$25 monitoring fee per unit—the current rate in Guam—

is "too low" and that a "\$100 per year monitoring report" would be "sufficient" to hire the monitoring services of companies like Spectrum Enterprises.

At the symposium, Sasamoto also "spent a lot of time talking to

developers" that "might potentially submit an application" for the LIHTC program in the CNMI.

Created through the Tax Reform of 1986 by the U.S. Congress, LIHTC is the largest and most important resource for cre-

ating affordable housing across the nation.

Presently, NMHC has approved two developers for the LIHTC program: Sandy Beach Homes, which is scheduled to complete by the end of the year its \$28.2-

million project in Chalan Kanoa, and the Blue Water Homes which is yet to start construction.

Board chair Marcie Tomokane instructed Sasamoto to submit a written report about the symposium as well as a proposal that the board can discuss and act on later.

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Guam golf club cited for workplace hazards

»Employer faces nearly \$33,000 in proposed fines

SAN FRANCISCO—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited Guam International Country Club for 17 alleged workplace safety violations found during an inspection at the club's maintenance shop in Dededo, Guam. Proposed fines total \$32,900.

"Employees must be protected against safety hazards in the workplace – not just because it is the right thing to do but because it is the law," said Ken Nishiyama Atha, OSHA's regional administrator in San Francisco. "Workplace safety is critical. OSHA will remain

focused on being proactive, especially when workers' safety and health are at stake."

Fifteen serious safety violations found include failing to provide training for employees working with hazardous materials, provide appropriate personal protective equipment for eyes and face, provide required forklift training and ensure that the forklift had a functioning seatbelt, and multiple electrical hazards, including exposing workers to live electrical parts. A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could

result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

Two other-than-serious safety violations were cited for failing to prepare and maintain records of work-related injuries and illnesses, including OSHA's Form 300 for work-related injuries and illnesses as well as the agency's Form 301, or its equivalent, for reporting incidents of injuries and illnesses. An other-than-serious violation is one that has a direct relationship to job safety and health, but probably would not cause death or serious physical harm.

The employer has 15 busi-

ness days from receipt of its citations and proposed penalties to comply, meet with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings to the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

To ask questions, obtain compliance assistance, file a complaint, or report workplace hospitalizations, fatalities or situations posing imminent danger to workers, the public should call OSHA's toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742) or the agency's Honolulu Area Office in Hawaii at 808-541-2680. (**OSHA**)

**Happy Thanksgiving
and
Have a Safe Holiday!**

*If you listen closely the
turkey is really saying
"Buckle-Buckle-Buckle."*

Buckle up this Thanksgiving.



Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 23, 2000

Senate approves \$221 million budget

The government's proposed spending package of \$221.66 million for the current fiscal year finally received yesterday the Senate's stamp of approval, clouded by accusations of political intimidation in the budget process. Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez was the lone dissenting voice as eight of the nine senators voted to pass the budget proposal that has substantial changes from what the governor and the House have recommended. He said more than \$10 million were taken away from the budget of the Executive Branch fund programs endorsed or supported by the senators.

BOE seeks AG opinion on teacher representative

Uncertain of the legality of a recent Board of Education move to fill a teacher representative vacancy within the policy-making body, BOE Chair Frances H. Diaz said yesterday the board has taken steps to untangle the legal loopholes by seeking assistance from the Attorney General's Office. BOE earlier sent out ballots containing names of five aspiring teacher representatives to the Public School System faculty to fill a vacancy left by now Hopwood Junior High School Principal David Borja. "The ballots already came back and we counted the votes but when we looked at public law 6-10, the Commonwealth executive order, and the language of our own BOE by laws, we were unsure of whether the process we employed was valid," said Ms. Diaz.

Nov. 23, 2001

New law defines BPL powers, duties

Despite several identified defects, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has signed into law a bill setting out in specific terms the extent of the powers and duties of the Board of Public Land. Tenorio said he signed Senate Bill 12-123 into law in deference to the broad constitutional authority of the Legislature and to the support of the bill by the Board of Public Lands and by the Public Lands Administrator. The measure, which aims to amend the Board of Public Lands Act of 2000 and references to it in the Commonwealth Code, suffers, however, from several technical deficiencies. These deficiencies will have to be remedied by collective amendment in order to properly carry out the intent of the bill," said Tenorio.

CUC cited thrice for violation of drinking water standards

The Division of Environmental Quality has cited three violations against the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation in connection with the bacterial contamination level of its drinking water supply for Saipan last month. "If the CUC fails to take the steps outlined above to correct the violations, the DEQ may issue an administrative order that can include administrative fines. The maximum penalty authorized for violations of CNMI Drinking Water Regulations is \$25,000 per day of violation for each violation," DEQ Acting Director Antonio I. Guerrero said in the notice of violations.

Nov. 23, 2002

House seeks resolution to CUC, CDA deal standoff

The signing of the Memorandum of Agreement drafted to heal the long-standing conflict between the Commonwealth Development Authority and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is reportedly in limbo following the CUC Board's refusal to affix its signature on the deal. The CUC's reluctance reportedly stems from a last-minute inserted amendment to the MOA that states, "Debtor agrees not to raise its utility rates without first justifying such increases to the CNMI Legislature and obtaining its approval by joint resolution or other legislative measure."

Today proclaimed as Suicide Survivors Day

Each year, over 30,000 people in the United States die by suicide, leaving behind hundreds of thousands of survivors—wives, husbands, parents, children, siblings, friends and co-workers—to cope with this tragic loss. Suicide is the United States' 11th leading cause of death. It is estimated that for every suicide, at least six other people's family members, friends, co-workers are intimately affected, and left to survive the terrible loss. To provide an opportunity to help survivors of suicide express and understand the troubling and powerful grief, stigma, pain and guilt they experience, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention sponsors the National Survivors of Suicide Day, which is usually observed every year on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, which is today.

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Chicken Leg Quarter LIMIT 1 \$25.99 \$19.99 22 LBS.	Whole Chicken \$37.99 30 LBS.	Baby Ribs \$19.99 /CASE	Spareribs \$21.99 20 LBS.	Milkfish \$1.59 /LB. Tilapia \$1.29 /LB.	Similac/Enfamil \$15.99 1.8 KG. Ages 1 to 3 \$15.99 12.5 OZ.	Promil Ages 4 Up 1.8 KG. \$25.99 Ages 1 to 3 \$27.99 1.8 KG.	Anchor Milk 2.5KG. \$28.99	Gain Plus Ages 1 to 3 1.8 KG. \$29.99
Chicken Wings \$11.99 5 LBS.	Banquet Sausage Links \$1.79 7 OZ.	Gusto Ham \$16.99 10 LBS.	Ground Beef \$10.99 5 LBS.	Beef Backribs 20 LBS. \$27.99 /CASE	Squid 1 LB. \$1.99 BOX	Seaport Imitation Crab Stick \$1.99	Hotlinks Sausage 1.5 LB. \$3.99	Carrots 99¢ /BAG
Ichiban \$10.95 /BOX	Nong Shim Korean Soba \$7.99 /CASE	Rice Stick \$1.19 1/8 OZ. \$1.99 1/16 OZ.	Flour Stick 99¢ 1/8 OZ. \$1.89 1/16 OZ.	Cabbage 89¢ 1 LB.	Garlic (3 pcs.) 99¢ /PACK	Potato (Jumbo) 89¢ /LB.	Orange 99¢ /LB.	Apple Cello \$3.99 /PACK
Spam (All Flavors) \$2.39	Hormel Corned Beef Hash \$1.99	Ox & Palm Corned Beef \$2.99	Black Label \$1.79	Libby's Vienna Sausage \$1.29 90Z.	Armour Vienna Sausage \$3.99 1/6 PACK	Ace Tuna \$1.29	Bumblebee Tuna 89¢	Sunflower Tuna \$1.29
Kimchee Base \$5.99 450G	Hormel Chili No Beans \$1.79	Hunts Pork & Beans 99¢ 390g	Dinty Moore Beef Stew 15 OZ. \$1.69	Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn 89¢	Del Monte Sliced Pineapple \$4.99	Maggie Savor 250ml. 99¢	Kikkoman \$3.99 1.6 L	Salt 89¢
Marfran Banana Catsup 3.9kg \$3.99	King Choice Vegetable Oil 2L \$5.99 2 for \$9.99	Crisco Pure Vegetable Oil 1 Gal \$10.99	Golden State White Distilled Vinegar \$3.99 1 GALLON	Salad Oil \$29.99 5 GALLON \$32.99 5 GALLON BOX	Minola Lauric Oil 1 Gal \$8.99	Chorizzos \$27.99 LIMIT 1	Vlassic Dill Pickles \$6.99 SLICED \$5.99 WHOLE	Lemon Powder \$4.99 /CASE
Crisco Shortening \$5.49 3 LB.	Royal Spaghetti 1 Kg. \$2.39 2 for \$5.00	Royal Salad/Elbow Macaroni 1 Kg. \$1.79	Fiesta Spaghetti Sweet Blend Sauce 500g. 2 \$5.00 for \$2.99 EACH	Kellogg's Corn Pop 12.5 OZ. \$2.99 \$2.99 EACH	Fita/Skyflakes/Sunflower Crackers \$3.99 850 G.	Real Fresh 1 LITER \$20.99 /CASE	Carnation Evap Milk FROM U.S. \$1.19 FROM PHILIPPINES	Nestle Cream 300g 89¢ FROM PHILIPPINES
Nestea Iced Tea Mix \$8.99	Magnolia Water 35 BOTTLES= \$8.99 /CASE	Kool Aid 22 QT. \$8.99	Wilkins \$6.99 2 LITERS	Seok Su Water 550 ml. 20 Bottles \$5.99 6000 ML.	Sunkist Juice \$6.99 /CASE	Kato Juice 2 \$1.00 for \$7.99 /CASE	Coke (All Flavors) WARM ONLY \$14.99 /CASE	San Miguel Beer Light/Pale Pilsen Can WARM ONLY \$21.99 /CASE
Tide Detergent \$3.99 2.8 KG.	Gain Powder LIMIT 2 \$17.99 5 KG.	Gain Liquid Detergent (All Kinds) \$5.99 50 OZ.	Purex Laundry Soap \$4.99	Joy Dish. \$5.99 90 OZ.	Luv's Big Box (All Sizes) \$17.99	Mega Drypers (All Sizes) \$14.99	Silky Baby Wipes \$1.39	Charmin Regular \$6.99 24 ROLLS
Colgate Regular 150ml 2 for \$3.99	Pantene Shampoo & Conditioner (All Kinds) 420ml \$4.99 EACH	Head & Shoulders (All Kinds) 420ml \$4.99 EACH	Palmolive Shampoo & Conditioner \$1.99 EACH	Diamond Foil \$6.99 200 sq.ft.	Axxion Foam Plates 125 CT \$6.99 LIMIT 1	Assorted Food Containers \$1.99	Gillette Fusion 4 Cartridges 4 Cartouches \$16.99	Clorox \$3.29 3 Q.R.
Prize Dog Food 20 LBS. \$19.99	Clorox \$19.99	1 Burner Gas Stove \$11.99						

Opinion

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

An Indian 'prayer of thanks'

By MARK ANTHONY ROLO
THE PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

This Thanksgiving, don't call on me, as an American Indian, to offer up a prayer of thanks.

I sure wouldn't want to offend anyone with a prayer that dredges up key events of the dark past such as the forced, deadly removal of Cherokee Indians from their eastern homelands back in 1830. From the Carolinas to Oklahoma, 15,000 Cherokee were ordered to march through snow and ice and over mountains. At least, 4,000 of them died of starvation or exposure.

A prayer of thanks would be challenging should I reflect on the U.S. cavalry's longstanding war with many Plains tribes in an effort to steal the West. The Indian Wars revealed the height of this nation's inhumanity. In 1890, a sneak attack by the 7th Cavalry on a Lakota camp near Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota left more than 150 men, women, and children massacred.

Nor could I offer thanks for the policy of the federal government, starting in the 1890s, of taking American Indian children from their tribal homes and placing them in boarding schools in an effort to "kill the Indian, but save the man." Indian children lost their culture, languages and their families. Thousands of boarding school Indian children who died of disease were never returned home. Their bodies are buried in boarding school cemeteries scattered throughout this country.

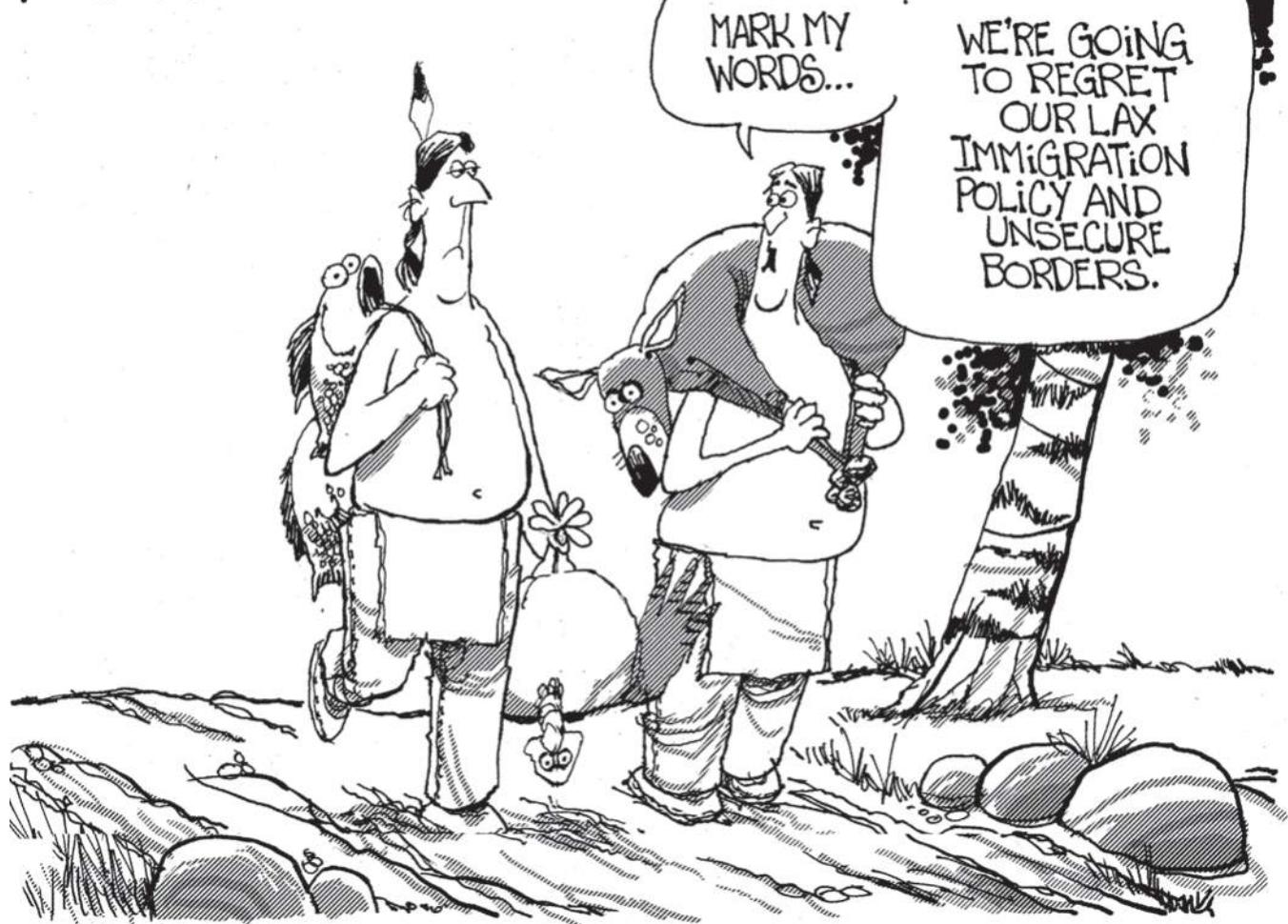
I suppose I could try to put a positive spin on my prayer by mentioning all of the benefits of Indian gaming. But that would be very misleading, considering that of the more than 500 Indian nations only a handful of tribes have been able to overcome most of the desperate ills of poverty. The rest of Indian Country still struggles with astronomical unemployment rates, the highest suicide rates in the country and rampant alcoholism.

Now, I could offer up a more politically correct prayer of thanks and remind my dinner party folks about a time when all was good between whites and Indians. I could trip back to Plymouth Rock. I could fondly recall how the newly arrived pilgrims honored the Indians with a feast—thanks for getting them through a harsh winter of disease and death.

But that would be one short prayer, since the goodwill between whites and Indians lasted about as long as a cold turkey sandwich.

Mark Anthony Rolo is a member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.

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Let's can the food drives

The holiday season is here. And in the spirit of the season, millions of people will donate food to food drives. Much of that food will be lovingly packed into boxes and baskets to be distributed to needy families. And just as in years past, such well-intentioned food donations will needlessly leave millions of people hungry. Here's why.

In the traditional food drive/standardized food box approach, donors are asked to go to the store and buy food or to donate food from their cupboards. It's then dropped into a collection barrel, or piled around a Christmas tree, or put on the altar of their churches, etc.

For every \$10 spent that way, \$10 worth of food goes into the charity food distribution system. But if the receiving charity food agency packs and gives out the food in standardized boxes, research has shown that as much as half of the food may not get used. This is not because the receiving family wasn't needy but because the food is either something they can't use or don't know how to use.

So that \$10 gift may end up providing only \$5 worth of actual hunger relief. What's more, because donations to food drives are nearly impossible to document for tax deductions, the donor bears the full cost of the \$10 donation for what amounts to \$5 worth of food used.

By contrast, suppose the donor gave money—not food—to a charity serving the hungry. Three things can happen. First, instead of going to the store to buy food, the charity takes the donated funds to its area's food bank. There, for every dollar a donor would have spent to buy cans of food, the charity could draw about \$20 worth of food. That's because food banks serve as nonprofit, wholesale-like clearinghouses for the food industry's surplus food, charging only a nominal handling fee for food drawn by charity agencies. So a \$10 donation ends up leveraging as much as \$200 worth of food for the charity to distribute.

Second, instead of packing the food into standardized boxes, the charity can display it in a store-like fashion and permit needy families to choose what they like. That practice, called "client choice," eliminates the problem of needy families being given food they cannot use.

Finally, if donors claim a charitable-gifts tax deduction, the after-tax cost to them in giving \$10 could drop to as low as \$7.50. Thus, by promoting fund drives instead of food drives, community members can drop the cost of addressing their area's hunger problem 25% simply by taking maximum advantage of available tax benefits.

The bottom line is that for the same amount of money spent on

By JOHN ARNOLD and
KATHERINA M. ROSQUETA
Los Angeles Times



buying cans for a food drive, donors can feed 20 times more families by providing cash, not cans.

But wait, some argue: Our community food drive engages church members or schoolchildren in a way that writing a check or giving cash simply doesn't. To which we'd argue: Now is the time to match traditions with impact by demonstrating something that need not be in short supply—creativity! Instead of a canned food drive, have members of your congregation wash out cans used in making a meal, put their donations in the cans and bring them up to the altar. Have schoolchildren volunteer to put the food their financial donations have bought onto the shelves of the local food pantry. Given the amount of food the same amount of money could provide, it might require the whole school to stock the charity's shelves.

In September, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released its annual report on household food security. What it shows is that 48.8 million Americans lived in food-insecure households in 2010—households that struggle to feed all members.

In the true spirit of the season, if you really want to help such vulnerable families, go to your local food bank (or to <http://www.FeedingAmerica.org> to find one near you). Then take the money you would have used to buy cans for food drives and donate it to that local pantry. Fewer families will go hungry.

John Arnold is the former executive director of Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank, which has distributed 300 million pounds of food aid since 1989. <http://www.FeedingAmericaWestMichigan.org>. Katherine M. Rosqueta is the founding executive director of the Center for High Impact Philanthropy at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice. The center identifies strategies for donors to get the biggest bang for their buck. <http://www.impact.upenn.edu>. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Tough times ahead in paradise

The CNMI is viciously sandwiched in a no-win situation: Congress poised to cut federal deficit now at \$15 trillion over the next decade while our economy contracts beyond our wildest imaginings. If you will, any government who wishes to move its plans forward must have the benefits of a healthy private industry. We don't have one now.

Revenue degenerated by as much as \$136 million in recent past. The departure of major businesses sucked out anywhere between \$3 billion to \$5 billion in money that used to be recycled locally. This phenomenon contributed to the degeneration of revenues. Big time, too!

Now, if nothing else works, would Uncle Sam assist the CNMI meet its bloated payroll and an overly generous retirement program? Or would it insist that we too save ourselves from ourselves? Would politicians work up the resolve to cut spending down to a skeletal level? If reduction in force isn't the answer, what then do you propose ought to be done?

We're still spending scarce funds with "business as usual" in very, very unusual times. Yet the IOUs pile up by the millions of dollars annually. Why the dismissive attitude toward strong fiscal policy? Meanwhile, the boat keeps sinking deeper by the day. That the captain has jumped ship isn't helping any at all; I mean jumping out of the kettle right into a red-hot frying pan isn't very smart either, is it?

Now, a task force has been established to find ways to salvage the Retirement Fund. Well, how do you salvage a ship that is more than halfway below water? Would using the same set of tools help any? In short, would juggling the same figures change the result for the better? Einstein defines this as insanity! It's nauseating how the stewardship of taxpayers' money to ensure timely payment of employer's contribution did nothing to prevent it from insolvency.

It's time that key players try to explore privatized retirement programs such as the system that is in place in Singapore. Briefly, there's the 20-percent mandatory deduction from all members where the goal is to infuse some \$100K into the fund in order to qualify to draw from it. If at age 55 you haven't met the threshold,

then you are required to pledge half the value of your land to meet the requirement in order to qualify to draw benefits.

It is so designed so that it stays solvent through the years where money comes in regularly as retirees draw from their contributions. It's something to explore to see its success over our system of perpetual failure. It may be a different and difficult system, but conventional approach isn't the answer either.

Meanwhile, are there prospects for major investments in the near term? How much are talking about? How soon could they commence by way of real time infusion of wealth and jobs creation? Or is this a highly suspect venture often muffled in intermittent announcements of possible investments up north? A bit protracted as revenue streams disappear daily, right?

■ ■ ■

As Uncle Sam swings his shiny machete before our eyes, governments at all levels throughout the country must cut spending without choice. Bankrupt governments including the NMI ought to review how the governor of Puerto Rico reduced a \$3-billion deficit that is now paid off by as much as 80 percent. It had an interesting attrition program—reduction in the number of public sector employees—that looks feasible for all levels of government. The days of wine and roses have finally come to a bitter end. We can no longer bluff it!

■ ■ ■

Working up traditional strength

The seeming inability of our farmers and fishermen to venture beyond conventional wisdom renders traditional mode of production stuck in the mud of redundancy. If I may illustrate a point: The CNMI is geographically situated in the typhoon belt. Isn't it about time that we explore "vertical farming"?

It's a farming concept where you build a huge warehouse-like facility to grow both veggies, raise fowl, pigs, ducks, pigeons, and goats. Overall, you eliminate concerns about the weather since your plants are protected in a building. Furthermore, you eliminate insects from infesting your garden. And it guarantees a consistent production of veggies

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section

and other produce all-year-round.

You the farmer/supplier would be happy, restaurants and groceries would be happy too, including your consumers who can now rely on a steady flow of veggies produced locally. This farming method would eventually morph into cottage industries like pickling for farmers who wish to take it a notch further. You turn excess produce into money!

Some beneficial link should be established between the farmers' group, CREES, and universities in the vicinity to improve production of vegetables, staple food, and others. Both the Universities of Hawaii and Philippines should be able to contribute. Both could definitely improve local produce from sweet potatoes, taro, and veggies.

Now, if we don't move forward beyond conventional wisdom, then we'd return time and again to the usual myopic discussion on marketing of local produce (if the weather cooperates, no storm throughout the year). Vertical farming can be done and it's all up to the farmers and fishermen with resiliency and enthusiasm to claim their trophy.

■ ■ ■

Buddy Magoo said that the CNMI has seen nothing but dollar bills during the peak of the local economy. "Today, we only see dollar signs (not dollar bills) on posters pasted at grocery stores," he pointed out. "When do we see more dollar bills rather dollar signs beats me, partner." It's a tough issue given the litter of empty office spaces, record foreclosure of homes, surcharge that deflates family pocketbooks, salaries that remain flat or cut by austerity—all trophies of a failed leadership.

Don't ruin holiday season with materialism

By JENNIFER COBURN
THE PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

This holiday season, let's not overstuff ourselves with toys, trinkets and gifts. The glutony of consumerism adversely affects our health—and our children's health.

The average American spends more than \$1,000 during the holiday season, according to Buy Nothing Christmas, an organization that advocates simplifying the holiday.

Despite the fact that the United States represents 4.5 percent of the world's population, we consume 40 percent of its toys. The typical first-grader is able to recognize 200 brands and acquires 70 new toys a year.

Those toys may be harming your child.

In "Born to Buy," one of the most comprehensive analyses of consumerism in kids, professor Juliet Schor explains that the more kids buy into the commercial culture, the more likely they are to suffer from depression, anxiety, headaches, stomachaches and boredom. Adolescents with more materialistic values are more likely to engage in risky behavior, such as smoking, drinking and illegal drug use. They are more likely to suffer personality disorders like narcissism, separation anxiety, paranoia and attention deficit disorder.

Lavishing our children with gifts deprives them of something far more valuable: shared time and experiences. In our overscheduled lives, we are often too busy or tired to do a family art project, play a board game or bake cookies. I can't remember ever roasting chestnuts on an open fire, but it's always sounded like a lovely idea. Most families say that what they need more of is time—not stuff. And getting in and out of shopping centers steals your time.

Overabundance of holiday gifts offers a short-term payoff, but the long-term consequences are high. Mary Bellis Waller, author of "Crack-Affected Children," likens materialism to cocaine addiction. Buying stuff stimulates the pleasure centers of the brain, which creates a temporary high, but ultimately leaves one unsatisfied. The bottom line is that substance abuse is substance abuse.

Not surprisingly kids who are overindulged materially tend to have the worst relationships with their parents. Money can't buy love, but it sure seems to finance some serious familial discord.

I don't advocate for doing away with all holiday gift-giving. A few thoughtful gifts can add a lot to a child's holiday, but we need to redefine giving by shopping less and doing more. Our kids will remember the bread-baking, the snowball fights and the family time

long after they've tired of this year's must-have gadget.

Presents are part of the holiday experience, but they have come to eclipse the greater meaning of the season. Whether it is Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or winter solstice, the season offers us all a period to reflect on what makes life beautiful and meaningful. And

those usually don't come in wrapping paper.

Jennifer Coburn is an author of four novels. She wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.

Letter to the Editor

Word play

My grandson asked what the mascot of the Tanapag Elementary School stands for, and I had to stray out of alignment for a moment to think what it really stands for. After a little hesitation to make sure, I suggested that Tataga is a fish favorably eaten by the indigenous people of the Northern Mariana Islands. On the other hand, in the Chamorro language, it means "a potentially sharp object that could cut and inflict an injury." Am sure that the mascot refers to the "tataga" fish, and not an object that could inflict injury. If the word "tataga" is carelessly spelled out, it could mean a slew of different connotation such as "ta taga," which means ganging up for a chopping event. The fish itself is a very dangerous fish to handle if one does not know that this fish has two sharp and poisonous blades at its tail it uses to fend off predators. The point is, we do not need to refer to the mascot of the school to acknowledge the school. What is wrong with just saying "Tanapag Elementary School," unless something is wrong with the school's name.

The other school that is of interest to my young and yearning curious seeker is the "Chacha School." Well, this one, I had to think thrice more than the "tataga" mascot. I could only think of two possible connections on this one. "Chacha," as I am aware of, is a popular dance liked by people of all ages. The other assumption is that "chacha" refers to a person who is peculiar about eating a certain kind of food or a person that would not partake of any type of food or social event. "Chacha" defines between a person in need and a person in want. In other words, a difference between a person who lives to eat, and a person who eats to live. It is interesting, nonetheless, and that would command an explanation from the folks at PSS.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Remember us, please!

Culturally, older people were respected, loved, and actually treasured. At parties, I would see them seated prominently, highly respected, and absolutely everyone would *mangini* them. They were the center of attention. Everyone was so happy their elders were in their midst. As an American teacher from Oregon, I was fascinated by the love shown by families toward not only their parents but also to extended families and any aged friends. My mother had always told me to watch your husband-to-be. A man tends to treat his wife like he treats his mother. Such sweetness, kindness, and caring between family members here intrigued me. I fell in love with Saipan, I forgot to go home!

That was 30 years ago. What has changed? What has happened to our culture? Returning from seeing Oregon doctors, I am appalled by news of our retirement program about to collapse. I mean collapse! Financially collapse! I know we live in paradise, but even in paradise it's necessary to have money to buy food, pay the utilities, keep up with insurance and medicines, and simply care for your home and family. What did we do? Where did we go wrong? I am now one of those elders who rely on retirement resources. My husband and his family are so very good to me. My former students seem never to forget. Accomplishments, promotions, awards, trips, the latest baby are all talked about as we meet. How wonderful to be included in their circle of love. We are cared for and loved, but not one of us planned to be a burden to our children and families. We need desperately to be able to care mostly for ourselves for as long as we can, to give ourselves to our grandchildren, to help our families, to contribute to the community. We must continue to receive the resources we have earned. We are still here, functioning adults, albeit a little slower, but still functioning. Please don't take away our independence. We will need your care soon enough. Please let us enjoy our lives for as long as we are able. Remember us with respect and love and the necessary monies to live. We will appreciate and thank you every day. God bless!

Joan Kani
Tanapag, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▾76°

▲87° ▾76°

▲87° ▾76°

▲87° ▾76°

▲87° ▾76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sprinkles	▲84 ▾77
Palau	Cloudy	▲97 ▾79
Yap	Cloudy	▲88 ▾79
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▾77
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲86 ▾74
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲85 ▾80
Majuro	Cloudy	▲82 ▾78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Intermittent Clouds	▲66 ▾56
Beijing	Cloudy	▲50 ▾25
Hong Kong	Intermittent Clouds	▲78 ▾70
Honolulu	Intermittent Clouds	▲83 ▾74
London	Fog	▲55 ▾45
Los Angeles	Clear	▲59 ▾44
Manila	Showers	▲85 ▾79
Melbourne	Intermittent Clouds	▲69 ▾52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▾71
New York	Cloudy	▲50 ▾41
Osaka	Intermittent Clouds	▲59 ▾49
Paris	Cloudy	▲53 ▾41
Pusan	Sunny	▲56 ▾50
Rome	Cloudy	▲65 ▾50
Salem	Rain	▲53 ▾45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▾40
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲48 ▾42
Tokyo	Intermittent Clouds	▲58 ▾49
Washington, DC	Showers	▲61 ▾49

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:22 AM	5:44 PM	Today	3:54 AM	3:47 PM
Thursday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM	Thursday	4:57 AM	4:42 PM
Friday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM	Friday	6:02 AM	5:41 PM
Saturday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM	Saturday	7:07 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM	Sunday	8:09 AM	7:45 PM

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Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.

Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP

C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily

C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6

C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1

OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608 3:35am 7:05am 4, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN

OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

via ICN

C05070/191 4:35am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM

DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT

C05068/183 8:25am 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05068/183 8:25am 9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7

via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:40pm 1, 4, 7

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Kilili: USPS OKs extended hours at Saipan postal office

In response to a request from CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, the U.S. Postal Service has agreed to extend the retail operating hours at its Chalan Kanoa, Saipan branch through the evening of Nov. 28, 2011. The extended hours are to accommodate the increased volume of mail anticipated prior to the Nov. 28 filing deadline mandated under Public Law 110-229 and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services regulations.

Sablan made a request to the Postal Service on Friday, Nov. 18, 2011, for additional service hours in response to a concern

raised by a constituent that the existing hours may be insufficient to process the large volume of outgoing mail related to the USCIS Nov. 28 filing deadline.

"I really appreciate the willingness of our local Northern Mariana Islands Postmaster, Amy Marshall, her staff, and her colleagues in Hawaii, including Leo B. Tudela, to address the needs of our community and provide this extraordinary service in recognition of the importance of this deadline," said Sablan. "This will help to mitigate what are certain to be long lines and extended waiting times at the post office over

the coming days."

In addition to the extended retail service hours, Gregory Kawasaki, the Honolulu District's acting Manager of Post Office Operations that oversees the Saipan Post Office, offered Sablan his assurance that all mail deposited at the Chalan Kanoa branch after retail service hours but prior to midnight, Nov. 28, 2011, will receive a Nov. 28, 2011, postmark.

The Postal Service has indicated that they will continue to monitor the situation on Tinian and Rota, but do not anticipate a volume of such mail on those islands that would require ad-

ditional hours.

Kawasaki also reminded Sa-

plan that Postal Service customers are encouraged to utilize the

Capitol Hill and San Vicente branch Post Offices. (PR)

NMC placement test schedules

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting the English and math placement tests for the upcoming Intersession 2011 semester (Dec. 5-29, 2011) and the spring 2012 semester on the following dates:

ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE

Intersession 2011 semester

Nov. 30, Wednesday: 9am - 4pm, Building M

Spring 2012 semester

Jan. 3, Tuesday: 9am - 4pm, Building M

Jan. 4, Wednesday: 9am - 6pm, Building M

Jan. 5, Thursday: 9am - 6pm, Building M

Jan. 6, Friday: 9 - 2pm, Building M

Jan. 9, Monday: 9am - 4pm, Building M

Jan. 10, Tuesday: 9am - 6pm, Building M

Jan. 11, Wednesday: 9am - 6pm, Building M

Jan. 12, Thursday: 9am - 4pm, Building M

Jan. 13, Friday: 9am - 2pm, Building M

MATH PLACEMENT TEST SCHEDULE

Intersession 2011 semester

Nov. 23, Wednesday: 2pm - 4pm, Room D-1

Spring 2012 semester

Jan. 3, Tuesday: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9

Jan. 5, Thursday: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9

5pm - 7pm, Room A-9

Jan. 10, Tuesday: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9

Jan. 12, Thursday: 10am - 12pm, Room A-9

5pm - 7pm, Room A-9

Those who wish to take courses at NMC must take the placement tests. Registration for NMC's intersession 2011 semester is on Thursday, Dec. 1 and Friday, Dec. 2, 2011.

There is a \$25 fee for each placement test that must

be paid in advance at the NMC Cashier (Monday-Friday, 8:30am - 4pm). No one will be allowed into the testing room without proof of payment (a receipt for the placement test fee, or the NMC application fee). Payment for the application fee will cover the English placement test fee. If you have a placement test fee waiver, students must obtain a placement test slip from the Office of Admissions and Records prior to taking the test.

Test takers must also bring a valid photo ID (driver's license, passport or school ID) and pencils. No admittance to the testing room will be allowed after the starting time.

Those who wish to take the English placement test are strongly encouraged to contact the Language and Humanities Department to schedule an appointment. "Walk-in" test takers will be accommodated based on seat availability. The average time to complete the English placement test is between 1.5 and 2.5 hours.

To schedule an appointment to take the English placement test or for more information, contact Jim Kline at 234-5498 Ext. 2017, Tom Colton at 234-5498 Ext. 2009, or Elsie Skang-Ngawkal at Ext. 2014.

Calculators may be used when taking the math placement test. NMC students are not allowed to take the math placement test more than once. The only exception to this condition is for NMC students who have *not* taken a math class within one year of taking the math placement test.

If you have any questions about the math placement test, call the Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics Department at (670) 234-5498 Ext. 1202 or 1212.

For additional information, log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,
vs. EUGENE R. CLOTHIER and MONA M.T. CLOTHIER, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 03-0142B

NOTICE OF HEARING AND ORDER ON APPLICATION FOR ORDER IN AID OF JUDGMENT

To: EUGENE R. CLOTHIER and MONA M.T. CLOTHIER

Please take notice that the Commonwealth Development Authority's Application for an Order in Aid of Judgment (filed on July 5, 2011) has been continued to December 5, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., in courtroom 205.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that you appear at said date, time and place to answer questions regarding your assets and your ability to pay the judgment entered in this matter. You are forbidden from the date of this Order from giving away, selling or otherwise dispersing any of your real or personal property, including but not limited to your interest in Tract Lot No. 22089-2 and Saipan SDA Corporation shares.

You are further ordered to bring with you to the hearing any documents that will assist you in answering questions about your income, assets and monthly expenses.

SO ORDERED THIS October 26, 2011.

/s/ Clerk of Court, Superior Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs. ROMAN P. LIZAMA and NAMIE ILEMELONG, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 11-0106-CV

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS
ROMAN P. LIZAMA and NAMIE ILEMELONG:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the COMPLAINT within twenty (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeew, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Foreclosure.

SO ORDERED on this 18th day of October, 2011.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,
vs. EDWIN B. TUDELA and PATRICIA A. TUDELA, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 11-0209-CV

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS
EDWIN B. TUDELA and PATRICIA A. TUDELA:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the COMPLAINT FOR FORECLOSURE within twenty (20) days after completion of service by publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeew, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 1st day of October, 2011.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

NMI post office seeing hike in package mail

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Postal Service in the CNMI has seen an increase in the number of packages, according to Asia-Pacific international relations global business director Leo B. Tudela.

"There's about 8 to 9 percent growth in parcels coming to this part of the world, which is good," Tudela said in an interview last week.

Tudela and other USPS officials from the Pacific region, vendors, and suppliers were on island for the annual Christmas operations meeting held Thursday at the Chamolinian Room of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

According to Tudela, Saipan receives almost 6,000 mails daily. "You have to understand that most of the mails received are priority mail packages—85 percent are packages," he said.

Tudela said they anticipate that the volume of mail will "maybe double" this holiday season.

The director noted that heavy rains during last year's holiday season proved to be the biggest challenge for the U.S. Postal Service in the Pacific Region, causing them to deliver wet mail to their customers.

"We're going to appoint a wet mail coordinator to make sure that it's done properly and the mail doesn't get wet," he said.

Tudela said the meeting, held annually on a different island, provides a venue to discuss the challenges they encounter the previous year and "correct" or "prevent" any mistakes to ensure the timely processing and delivery of mails this holiday.

"By working jointly together, we can look at issues and concerns we had in the past and try to correct that. Hopefully this Christmas, everything works smoothly, everything [goes] well, and hopefully there'll be no customer complaints," he added.

At the meeting, new Saipan postmaster Amy Marshall was sworn in by USPS Honolulu district manager Frank Santos.

7TH ANNUAL BRILLIANT STAR HOLIDAY BAZAAR

COME JOIN THE FUN
ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
AT THE
MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER
Susupe

SPECIAL FEATURES
INCLUDE

LOCAL ARTISTS' GIFT ITEMS
(PERFECT FOR THE HOLIDAY!)

CULTURAL AND HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT PERFORMANCES
(TO SET THAT HOLIDAY SPIRIT!)

BAKE SALE & BENTO LUNCHES
(DELICIOUS!)

CHILDREN'S ARTS & CRAFTS
(GREAT FAMILY FUN!)

BOUNCY HOUSE AND GAMES

RAFFLES
(GREAT PRIZES!)

MUCH, MUCH MORE

PLEASE CALL 233-STAR (7827) FOR MORE DETAILS.

Man'amko celebrate early Thanksgiving with Rotarians

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For Maria Salinas, Thanksgiving is the time when families get together to sit down, share stories, and catch up with their lives.

Her family, Salinas said, includes her fellow congregates at the Aging Center. "I come over here just to see the camaraderie we have here, which is very good," she said. "This is a happy place to be."

Thanksgiving came early for Salinas and the rest of the *man'amko* when members of the Rotary Club of Saipan went to the center yesterday to host a lunch for the elderly.

Some 30 Rotarians brought and personally served traditional and healthy Thanksgiving fares that included turkey, ham, red rice, *titiyas*, garden salad, and assorted fruits for dessert.

The Rotary Club of Saipan hosts the Thanksgiving luncheon every year to pay tribute to the elderly population of the island as part of the Rotarians' community service.

Rotary president Pete Igital, in his remarks before lunch was served, said Thanksgiving is "best" when they celebrate it among the *man'amko*.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 2nd birthday Marlaina Kenzie Igital Benjamin! Your beautiful smile and tough-girl charm always brighten our day. May God bless you and watch over you as you embark on your terrible twos. All our love, the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION SCHEDULE OF ELECTRIC CHARGES AND RATES LEAC RATE EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 20, 2011

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's Order (Docket 09-1) of November 19, 2011, has established an aggregate Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause (LEAC) rate of \$0.30791 per kWh effective November 20, 2011, for a period continuing until amended by order of the Commission.

CUSTOMER CLASSIFICATIONS	MONTHLY CUSTOMER CHARGE	RATES PER KILOWATT-HOUR (kWh)		
		ELECTRIC NON-FUEL RATE (BASE RATE)	LEAC RATE	TOTAL RATE PER kWh
RESIDENTIAL	\$ 6.62	\$ 0.0190	\$ 0.30791	\$ 0.32691
1. First 500 kWh (1 To 500) 2. Second 500 kWh (501 To 1,000) 3. Next 1,000 kWh (1,001 To 2,000) 4. All kWh After 2,000 (Over 2,000)		0.0780	0.30791	0.38591
COMMERCIAL (All kWh Billed)	\$ 9.06	\$ 0.1020	\$ 0.30791	\$ 0.40991
GOVERNMENT (All kWh Billed)	\$ 9.06	\$ 0.1070	\$ 0.30791	\$ 0.41491
NON-CONFORMING LOAD (All kWh Billed)	\$ 56.00	\$ 0.2220	\$ 0.30791	\$ 0.52991

PREVIOUS ELECTRIC FUEL/LEAC RATES

JANUARY 2008	\$ 0.258	SEPTEMBER 2008	\$ 0.362
FEBRUARY 2008	\$ 0.253	OCTOBER 2008	\$ 0.337
MARCH 2008 (RES. ONLY)	\$ 0.176	NOVEMBER 2008	\$ 0.270
MARCH 2008 (ALL OTHERS)	\$ 0.288	DECEMBER 2008	\$ 0.207
APRIL 2008 (RES. ONLY)	\$ 0.176	JANUARY 2009 - MARCH 2009	\$ 0.22989
APRIL 2008 (ALL OTHERS)	\$ 0.327	APRIL 1 - 2, 2009	\$ 0.22989
MAY 2008 (RES. ONLY, 5/1 - 2/08)	\$ 0.176	APRIL 3, 2009 - SEPTEMBER 2009	\$ 0.20147
MAY 2008 (RES. ONLY, 5/3 - 31/08)	\$ 0.357	OCTOBER 2009 - MAY 2010	\$ 0.20147
MAY 2008 (ALL OTHERS)	\$ 0.357	JUNE 2010 - JANUARY 12, 2011	\$ 0.24446
JUNE 2008	\$ 0.387	JANUARY 13, 2011 - APRIL 15, 2011	\$ 0.28125
JULY 2008	\$ 0.413	APRIL 16, 2011 - NOVEMBER 19, 2011	\$ 0.34426
AUGUST 2008	\$ 0.413		

"I used to come here as a young man. Now I should be sitting among you," laughed Igital. He said the Rotarians enjoy coming to the center and celebrating the holiday with the congregates. "You are our benefactor, teaching us the knowledge that you have. Take good care of yourself and we hope to see you again next year."

Council chair Teresita Sorroza, for her part, expressed "a very big thank you" to the Rotary Club of Saipan on behalf of the congregates.

"They have very big hearts," said Sorroza. "They don't forget the *man'amko*."

The Rotarians also donated prizes for a raffle draw and a bingo game led by Rotarian Ben Babauta. Prizes included bags from Pacific Islands Club and First Hawaiian Bank, Christmas CDs, Bingo mugs and key chains, gift packs from DFS and D&Q, and gift certificates from PIC and Younis Art Studio.

Aging director Rose Mondala described the Rotary Club of Saipan as the center's "most precious partner."

"On behalf of my clients and staff, we would like to thank you for your continued support to us. Our *man'amko* are filled with joy for the generosity you've shown us in the past years. We consider you a part of the family and we really, really appreciate you from the bottom of our hearts," she said.

Terry Sita, who has been with the center since 2002, also thanked the Rotarians for the annual luncheon.

"I'm really happy because every year is like this. They give *man'amko* food and something for Thanksgiving," she said.

Congregate Yong Chayi said this was her third time to enjoy



CLARISSA V. DAVID
Rotarians serve traditional and healthy Thanksgiving fares to congregates at the Aging Center yesterday for their annual Thanksgiving luncheon for the *man'amko*.

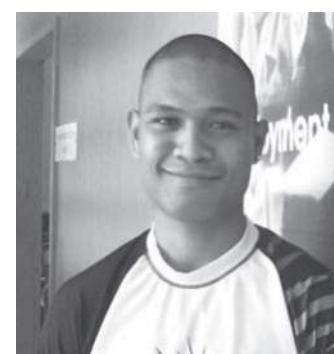
Saipan Divas to hold show-for-a-cause

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Organizers of a fundraising show to benefit foreign workers in the CNMI who will be out of status after Nov. 27 are calling for unity in support of a good cause.

Members of the group called Saipan Divas will be staging "Showtime 2011: A spectacular show for a cause" on Nov. 26, 7pm at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater.

Proceeds of the show will help fund the services of a lawyer to represent the seven individuals who filed in federal court last month a lawsuit that seeks to suspend the implementation of the CNMI-only Transitional Worker final rule, said Sharmaine Casquero of Saipan Divas.



WIA TRAINEES

Jason Teregeyo was accepted to the Hawaii Job Corps Center-Maui Campus on Nov. 14, 2011, where he will pursue his career training in Hospitality-Culinary Arts or Facilities Maintenance.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



Joel Chico W. Kaipat was accepted to the Sierra Nevada Job Corps Center on Nov. 18, 2011, where he will complete his GED diploma and training in Automotive Mechanic. WIA is very proud and wishes both registrants success in their chosen careers.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Casquero, in a phone interview, denied a claim in Saturday's article saying that the show is to raise funds to fly attorney Ted Laguatan, a California-based immigration lawyer and legal counsel of the U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance, to the CNMI.

Casquero, choreographer and director of Showtime 2011, said the show was an idea that their group came up with while attending the daily vigil by the TSL Plaza in Garapan.

"We wanted to help all contract workers in the CNMI so we thought we could do that by doing a fundraising show that would help get a lawyer for those that filed a lawsuit in federal court so we can all benefit from it," she said.

Having done many successful shows in the past, Casquero said they wanted to do a "fun" fundraising show that everybody can enjoy.

"That will be our contribution and our part to help the lawsuit. If there's a lawsuit, you would need the best lawyer in town to make your case. So the show is for the lawsuit, not attorney Laguatan," emphasized Casquero.

She said the event will feature presentations from different ethnicities. "All contract work-

ers will be represented in that show," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The performers, Casquero said, are all volunteers and will not be compensated.

Casquero added that their group is only doing the actual show. A different group of volunteers, mostly accountants who also attend the vigil, are in charge of ensuring that the proceeds from the ticket sales are all accounted for.

With only a week to go before the Nov. 27 deadline for foreign workers to be petitioned for a CW status, Casquero said all groups that want to help foreign workers in the Commonwealth should unite.

"Now is not the time for disputes and intrigues," said Casquero. "This is the time to set aside our differences and to unite to help our fellow contract workers."

Casquero challenged the public, including members of the U.S. Pinoy for Good Governance, to attend the vigil and listen to the plight of the many foreign workers in the CNMI. "Hear their problems and do what you can to help. Moreover, let's all be together on Saturday and enjoy the show," said Casquero.

For more information, call 888-2579 or 233-2643.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations Eydie, Mimi, Evelyn, and Shirley Kim on the blessing of your newly renovated Makeover Beauty Salon. Wish you a good luck and success in business. Greetings come from the Sun Palace Hotel family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Super failure: Deficit-cutting panel gives up

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress' supercommittee conceded ignominious defeat Monday in its quest to conquer a government debt that stands at a staggering \$15 trillion, unable to overcome deep and enduring political divisions over taxes and spending.

Stock prices plummeted at home and across debt-scarred Europe as the panel ended its brief, secretive existence without an agreement. Republicans and Democrats alike pointed fingers of blame, maneuvering for political advantage in advance of 2012 elections less than a year away.

■ ■ ■
WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama said Monday he will veto any effort to get rid of automatic spending cuts that would begin to take effect in 2013 if Congress can't find other ways of trimming government deficits.

Those spending cuts include significant reductions to the Pentagon that Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has said would be devastating to the military.

Obama issued his threat an hour after leaders of Congress' deficit-reduction supercommittee announced that they had failed to reach agreement on cutting the debt. The inability of the bipartisan committee to meet its deadline means the government is facing about \$1.2 trillion in automatic cuts that start to kick in in January 2013.

Obama said the threat of those reductions should remain in place to maintain pressure on Congress to find a compromise. He said the only way the automatic spending cuts would not take place is if Congress gets back to work and agrees to a "balanced plan" to reduce the deficit by \$1.2 trillion.

■ ■ ■
The impasse underscored grave doubts about Washington's political will to make tough decisions.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Proposal to tax Jack Daniel whiskey derailed

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A proposal to tax barrels of Jack Daniel whiskey was derailed Monday evening before it could reach the Tennessee Legislature. The Moore County Council in Lynchburg voted 10-5 to rescind a vote asking lawmakers to authorize a local referendum on the proposal. It would have taxed Jack Daniel up to \$5 million annually with the revenue going to local coffers. Charles Rogers of Lynchburg, who had spearheaded the effort, said the issue "is now on life support."

Venezuela businesses brace for more price controls

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—

sions and left a cloud of uncertainty over the U.S. economy at the same time that Greece, Italy, Spain and other European countries are reeling from a spreading debt crisis and recession worries.

Lawmakers of both parties agreed action in Congress was still required, somehow, and soon.

"Despite our inability to bridge the committee's significant differences, we end this process united in our belief that the nation's fiscal crisis must be addressed and that we cannot leave it for the next generation to solve," the panel's two co-chairs, Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-Tex., said in a somber statement.

They added it was not possible to present "any bipartisan agreement"—omitting any reference to the goal of \$1.2 trillion in cuts over a decade that had been viewed as a minimum for success.

President Barack Obama—criticized by Republicans for keeping the committee at arm's length—said refusal by the GOP to raise taxes on the wealthy was the main stumbling block to a deal. He pledged to veto any attempt by lawmakers to repeal a requirement for \$1 trillion in automatic spending cuts that are to be triggered by the supercommittee's failure to reach a compromise, unless Congress approves an alternative approach.

Those cuts are designed to fall evenly on the military and domestic government programs beginning in 2013, and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta as well as lawmakers in both parties have warned the impact on the Pentagon could be devastating.

In reality, though, it is unclear if any of those reductions will ever take effect, since next year's presidential and congressional elections have the potential to alter the political landscape before then.

The brief written statement from Murray and Hensarling was immediately followed by a hail of

recriminations.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said Republicans had "never found the courage to ignore the tea party extremists" and "never came close to meeting us half way."

But Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., who authored a GOP offer during the talks, said, "Unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues refused to agree to any meaningful deficit reduction without \$1 trillion in job-crushing tax increases."

Said Gov. Rick Perry of Texas, a GOP presidential hopeful, "It's amazing to what lengths he (Obama) will go to avoid making tough decisions."

It was unlikely the outcome would materially improve Congress' public standing—already well below 20-percent approval in numerous polls.

And the panel's failure left lawmakers confronting a large and controversial agenda for December, including Obama's call to extend an expiring payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits. Democrats had wanted to add those items and more to any compromise, and lawmakers in both parties also face a struggle to stave off a threatened 27 percent cut in payments to doctors who treat Medicare patients.

Based on accounts provided by officials familiar with the talks, it appeared that weeks of private negotiations did nothing to alter a fundamental divide between the two political parties. Before and during the talks, Democrats said they would agree to significant savings from benefit programs like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security only if Republicans would agree to a hefty dose of higher taxes, including cancellation of Bush-era cuts at upper-income brackets. In contrast, The GOP side said spending, not revenue, was the cause of the government's chronic budget deficits, unless Congress approves an alternative approach.

Those cuts are designed to fall evenly on the military and domestic government programs beginning in 2013, and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta as well as lawmakers in both parties have warned the impact on the Pentagon could be devastating.

In reality, though, it is unclear if any of those reductions will ever take effect, since next year's presidential and congressional elections have the potential to alter the political landscape before then.

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retailer ended its relationship with a producer accused of animal cruelty, and the company scrambled Monday to line up new suppliers before Thanksgiving. Shortages were reported at stores as far away as Chicago and North Carolina after Minneapolis-based Target Corp. decided to quit doing business with Litchfield-based Sparboe Farms. An undercover video shot by animal rights activists at farms in three states revealed mistreatment to hens and chicks that even Sparboe described as sickening. McDonald's Corp. and Cargill Inc. were the first major customers to announce Friday that they had cut off Sparboe, followed quickly by Target and the Minnesota chain Lunds and Byerly's.

Target scrambles to line up new egg suppliers

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Egg shortages were reported at some Target stores after the



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-12-002

Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from DEQ certified firms to provide laboratory services for the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Package and Scope-of-Work may be obtained, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 (non-refundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **November 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-12-002, CUC Water & Wastewater Laboratory Services", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 28 ,2011 at 10:00 AM, (ChST)**. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 17, 2011** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net; Janina Muna, Administrative Assistant, Procurement & Supply via email mika.muna@cucgov.org with a copy to Heidi Yelin, CUC Laboratory Manager via email lab@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-12-003

Urgent Repair: Fuel Tank Nos. R1, R3, R4 & Piping, Rota Power Plant

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified contractors or firms for the Urgent Repair of Fuel Tanks Nos.R1, R3, R4 & Piping, Rota Power Plant, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The tanks have been cleaned and undergone API inspections and they are not currently in use. The piping or part of the piping may still be in use and they would be emptied by CUC and handed over for the necessary work through a mutually arranged schedule with the winning contractor. Contractors are advised that the work will be carried out as a part of CUC response actions under the consent decree noted as Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO 2).

The Scope-of-Work and Proposal package will be emailed, upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$ 100.00 for one set, upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM local time, until December 9, 2011.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a mandatory site visit is scheduled for **November 28, 2011 at 10:30 AM (ChST)** at CUC Rota Power Plant No. 1, Songsong Village, Rota to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or performance of work under the contract.

One (1) Original and Seven(7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "RFP-12-003 – Urgent Repair: Fuel Tank Nos. R 1, R 3, R 4 & Pipeline, Rota Power Plant" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

The Offeror is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

A Proposal Guarantee of 15 percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of **one hundred (100%) percent** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful proposers. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of **one hundred (100%) percent** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful proposers. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code, with the proposal.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 (ChST) on December 9, 2011**, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Mika Muna via email at mika.muna@cucgov.org; Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Project coordinator SO 2 via email at venu@cucgov.net and Mr. Edward Chargulaf, Technical Manager for Oil via email at ed.char@cucgov.org.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the interest of the government.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Nation

Was Calif. police use of pepper spray justified?

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Virtual videos of riot police repeatedly pepper spraying a row of seated, non-violent Occupy Wall Street protesters at a California university has sparked outrage, an investigation and calls for the college chancellor's resignation.

It also set off a debate about how far officers can and should go to disperse peaceful demonstrators.

While many students, lawmakers and even the university's chancellor saw the officers' ac-

tions as excessive, some experts on police tactics say, depending on the circumstances, pepper spray can be a less violent crowd control measure than dragging protesters away or swinging at them with truncheons.

"Between verbalized commands and knock-down, drag-out fights, there's quite a bit of wiggle room," said David Klinger, a former Los Angeles Police Department officer and instructor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis who reviewed the pepper

spray footage.

"When you've got a bunch of people who are clearly noncompliant, locking arms, it doesn't look good (on camera)," he said.

Soon after the incident on Friday at the University of California, Davis, video recordings spread across the Internet.

The footage of an officer casually spraying an orange cloud over protesters while spectators screamed in horror joined other much-discussed pepper-spray incidents, such as the 84-year-

old activist hit in the face in Seattle and a Portland, Ore., woman who recently was sprayed in the mouth.

Images of the officer seen spraying the protesters became the subject of a blog, which featured him spraying famous figures, from Gandhi to John F. Kennedy.

The university announced Monday that it has placed the police chief and two officers on administrative leave to restore trust and calm.



AP

University of California, Davis, student Mike Fetterman, receives a treatment for pepper spray by UC Davis firefighter Nate Potter, after campus police dismantled an Occupy Wall Street encampment on the campus quad in Davis, Calif., Friday, Nov. 18, 2011.

Penn St. taps ex-FBI director for investigation

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Former FBI director Louis Freeh, tapped to lead Penn State's investigation into the child sex abuse allegations against a former assistant football coach, said his inquiry will go as far back as 1975, a much longer period than a grand jury report issued earlier this month.

Freeh was named Monday to oversee the university board of trustees' internal investigation into the abuse allegations that

ultimately led to the ouster of longtime football coach Joe Paterno and university President Graham Spanier.

Freeh said his goal was to conduct a comprehensive, fair and quick review. His team of former FBI agents, federal prosecutors and others has already begun the process of reading the grand jury report and looking at records.

"We will immediately report any evidence of criminality to law enforcement authorities," said

Freeh, who has no direct connection to Penn State.

Penn State has faced criticism since announcing that its internal investigation would be led by two university trustees, Merck pharmaceutical company CEO Kenneth Frazier

and state Education Secretary Ronald Tomalis. Faculty members on Friday called for an independent investigation of how the university handled abuse allegations, and the faculty senate endorsed a resolution asking for an independent investigation.

ACROSS THE NATION

Missing girl's mom arrested on child abuse charges

GLendale, Ariz. (AP)—Police on Monday arrested the mother of a missing 5-year-old Arizona girl on child abuse charges "directly related" to the girl, and said they don't believe they'll find the child alive. In a news conference that offered the most detail yet about what investigators think happened to Jhessye Shockley, Glendale police said the girl's mother, Jerice Hunter, was now the investigation's "No. 1 focus." Hunter was booked Monday at the Maricopa County jail. A sheriff's spokesman said Hunter was

unable to talk to reporters because she had not yet been assigned a housing unit. She was scheduled for her first court appearance Monday night.

NY pain doctor arrested after man's fatal overdose

NEW YORK (AP)—A pain management doctor whose patients included a man who killed four people in a pharmacy robbery made a practice of peddling prescriptions to addicts and drug dealers, and at least 10 of his patients went on to die of overdoses, authorities said Monday. From a Queens weekend clinic where patients lined up in front of his door

and as many as 120 were seen a day, Dr. Stan Li wrote more than 17,000 prescriptions—mainly for oxycodone and other highly addictive painkillers—in the last 2 1/2 years, city Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget G. Brennan's office said as Li was charged with selling prescriptions to one patient even after the man repeatedly overdosed. An overdose ultimately killed him.

AP source: Funding dispute will delay 9/11 museum

NEW YORK (AP)—The 2012 opening of the Sept. 11 museum at the World Trade Center will be delayed by disputes over

redevelopment costs, a person familiar with the construction project said Monday. The dispute between the National September 11 Memorial & Museum foundation and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey was first reported in The Wall Street Journal. The foundation is responsible for the museum's cost while the Port Authority, which owns the site, is paying for infrastructure improvements. Exactly who should pay for each component of the project has been subject to debate, and the dispute responsible for the delay partly centers over \$156 million that the Port Authority says the foundation owes.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID IFB NO.: IFB12-OHS-001

SUBMISSION DATE: JANUARY 04, 2012 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF FOURTEEN (14) JERSEY BARRIERS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION - CHALAN KIYA SUBSTATION"

PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS MAY RETRIEVE A COPY OF THE COMPLETE CONTENTS OF THE INVITATION FOR BIDS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY SITE VISIT WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 12, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE CUC CHALAN KIYA SUBSTATION.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. CARL DELA CRUZ, OHS PROCUREMENT OFFICER BY E-MAIL TO ohs.delacruz@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2011.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ MARVIN K. SEMAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP12-DOF/REV-008

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PRINTING SERVICES FOR TAX YEAR 2011 FORM W-2CM, FORM OS-3710 AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, DIVISION OF REVENUE & TAXATION OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION, CENTRAL OFFICE, DANDAN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 29, 2011 AND ADDRESSED TO MS. FLORIA YANGILMAU OR MRS. LORNA SABLON, ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL AT TELEPHONE NOS. 664-1000 OR FAX TO 664-1015.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/S/ LARISSA C. LARSON
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID ITB12-CHC-015 (A)(B)

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: DECEMBER 06, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF TEN (10) DESKTOP COMPUTERS & ACCESSORIES AND TWO (2) SERVERS & ACCESSORIES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION - IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ JUAN N. BABAUTA
CEO - COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORP.

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 2011-CDA-07-RFP LOAN UNDERWRITER

The Commonwealth Development Authority is soliciting competitive proposals from qualified firms, companies, agencies and/or persons to provide the services of a loan underwriter experienced in all aspects of the underwriting process, to provide independent contractual services for the CDA in the implementation of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Loan Guaranty and Loan Participation Programs. This procurement is being conducted pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 70-30.3, specifically § 70-30.3-235).

The CDA on behalf of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) has applied for State Small Business Credit Initiative funds for the amount of \$13,168,350 for Loan Participation and Loan Guaranty. Programs are subject to CDA and lender criteria as well as SSBCI guidelines.

The purpose of the programs is to provide businesses with high growth and job creation potential that will diversify and strengthen the local economy. It encourages expansion of existing and emerging new industries to expand economic opportunity to all in the community.

The Program targets the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CDA encourages the leveraging of new private investment in the form of fixed asset and working capital investment. The Program provides loan guaranty and participation of up to \$5 million to businesses at interest rates and loan maturities that encourage business development and facilitate reinvestment while providing for the recapitalization and growth of fund. The program perpetuates a positive and proactive business climate that encourages the retention and expansion of existing businesses and helps to attract desirable new businesses. The Program objective is to leverage the SSBCI funding ten times (10X) with private financing.

The guidelines and specifications for this RFP may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Holidays, or from the Office of Procurement and Supply in Lower Base.

Respectfully

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLON
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director, Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@stic.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2011

Opening date: November 16, 2011

Closing date: November 30, 2011

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

(1) Procurement Officer (Saipan)	(1) Tariff Technician-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)	(1) Custodial/Maintenance-I (Rota)
(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Rota)	(1) Radio Operator/Weather Observer (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. For Rota vacancy, applications may be picked up at the CPA's Administration Office of the Rota International Airport; and for Tinian's vacancy, applications may be picked up at CPA's Administration Office of the Tinian International Airport; or it may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than 4:30 p.m., November 30, 2011.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact Ms. Addy C. Manahane by email at aemanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

**All ARFF/Ports Police Trainee applicants must undergo a physical fitness test.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Asia

PH massacre victims to file case vs Arroyo

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Relatives of 57 people massacred in 2009 in the southern Philippines are suing former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo over the killings, which they claim she could have prevented, a lawyer said Tuesday.

At least two Arroyo allies, including a former governor of an autonomous Muslim region, are among about 100 suspects being tried on murder charges in the country's worst politically motivated bloodbath, which occurred two years ago Wednesday. The dead included 32 media workers, making it the worst single killing of journalists in the world.

Arroyo was arrested last week on charges that she ordered the former governor, Andal Ampatuan Sr., and another official to commit election fraud two years before the massacre. Arroyo has condemned and denied any knowledge of the killings, but lawyer Harry Roque said she should have known that Ampatuan and his son were a danger.

Tibet group video allegedly shows nun burning

BEIJING (AP)—A Tibetan rights group has released graphic video of what it says is a Buddhist nun engulfed in flames on a city street in one of several apparent self-immolation protests against Chinese rule.

The video, released Monday by Students for a Free Tibet, purports to show Palden Choetso, whose death on Nov. 3 in predominantly Tibetan Ganzi prefecture in Sichuan province had previously been reported.

The video shows a woman in nun's robes standing on a street corner covered in bright red flames. She collapses to the ground after about 15 seconds.

Additional footage shows about 10,000 mourners gathering at a monastery for a candlelight vigil on Nov. 6 to pay their respects to the 35-year-old nun while about 1,000 monks and nuns hold prayers inside.

The video also shows Chinese security forces in riot gear shadowing monks and nuns tak-

Roque said would file the lawsuit Tuesday, seeking 15 million pesos (\$346,000) in damages.

Reporters, drivers and assistants were accompanying family and supporters of the Ampatuans' political rival en route to file for candidacy in regional elections when gunmen allegedly led by former town mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr. stopped them and led them to a hilltop clearing where they were mowed down and hastily buried in mass graves.

The Ampatuans were political allies of Arroyo but after the massacre she expelled them from her ruling party. She also declared martial law in Maguindanao province, enabling the army and police to round up the suspects and attempt to restore order.

Roque said that although there is no evidence that Arroyo masterminded the massacre, "she not only funded and armed the Ampatuans but gave them the sense of influence. She could have prevented it. She knew about possible dangers."

Arroyo lawyer Ferdinand Topacio said, "Talk is easy but the evidence has to be solid to pass those who will review it."

The former president's legal team was arguing a petition in the Supreme Court Tuesday seeking to stop the arrest of their client on charges of electoral cheating.

Arroyo, who stepped down last year, was arrested in her hospital suite on Friday on charges that she ordered Andal Ampatuan Sr. and a former elections official to rig 2007 congressional polls in Maguindanao to favor her candidates. Arroyo has denied any wrongdoing.

The elder Ampatuan was implicated by his son, Zaldy Ampatuan, who wants to become a state witness in the electoral fraud case. Zaldy Ampatuan is also charged in the massacre, and the victims' relatives strongly oppose allowing him to become a prosecution witness in Arroyo's case, which could lead to more lenient treatment for himself in the murder trial.

New York.

At least 11 monks, nuns and former monks have self-immolated this year in what are seen as acts of desperation in the face of tightening controls over Tibetan life and Buddhist culture.

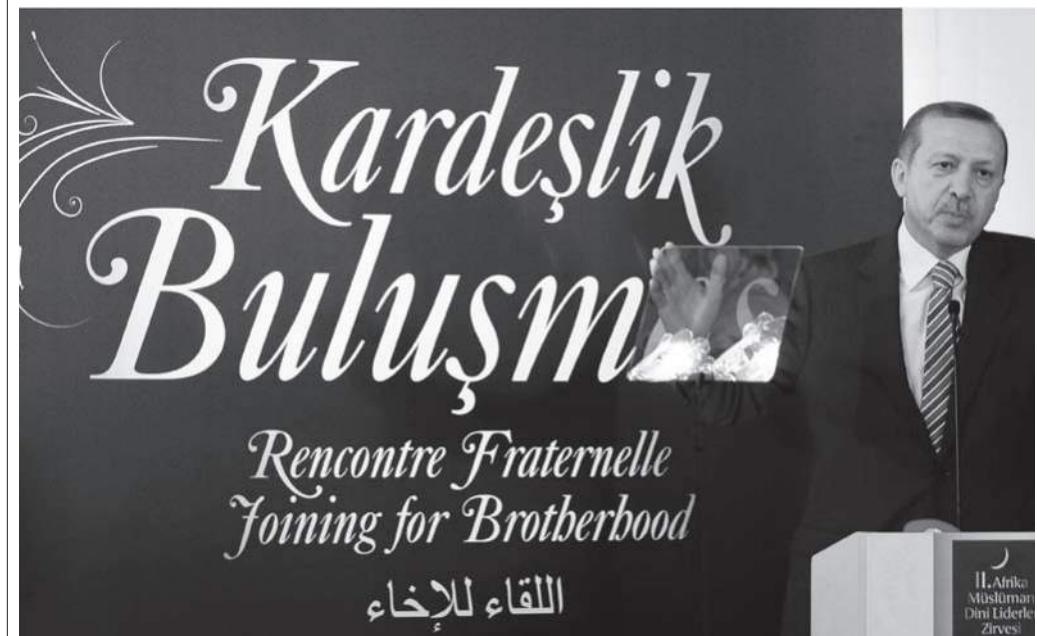
Most ignited the flames while calling for Tibetan freedom and the return of their spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, who fled to India amid an abortive uprising against Chinese rule in 1959.

China claims Tibet has always been part of its territory, but many Tibetans say the Himalayan region was virtually independent for centuries.

Authorities routinely deny Tibetan claims of repression, although they have confirmed some cases of self-immolations and accused supporters of the Dalai Lama of encouraging such acts. The Dalai Lama and representatives of the self-declared Tibetan government-in-exile in India say they oppose all violence.

World

Turkey says Syria can't oppress people forever



Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan addresses a meeting with African Muslim religious leaders in Istanbul, Turkey, Monday, Nov. 21, 2011.

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkey warned Syria's president Monday that he cannot continue to oppress his people with tanks and guns forever, even as Syrian soldiers opened fire on at least two buses carrying Turkish citizens, witnesses and officials said.

In separate attacks, Syrian security forces killed at least 13 people during raids in central Syria Sunday, activists said. The British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Local Coordination Committees said most of the deaths were in the flashpoint city of Homs, a hotbed of dissent against Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime.

The attacks on the buses, which wounded two people, appeared to be retaliation for Turkey's mounting criticism of Assad, whose military crackdown on an 8-month-old uprising against his rule has killed nearly 4,000 people.

"You can only continue with tanks and guns to a certain point, the day will come when

you will go," Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said during a speech at an international religion conference in Istanbul. "Sooner or later, the oppressed will win."

It was not clear whether Erdogan was aware of Monday's attacks on the buses when he delivered the speech. The Turkish leader has grown increasingly critical of the Syrian regime, and he said last week that the world must urgently "hear the screams" from Syria and do something to stop the bloodshed.

Turkey has allowed Syrian refugees and military defectors to take refuge on its soil, and Syria's political opposition has used Turkey as a place to meet and organize.

Assad's deepening isolation and the growing calls for his ouster are a severe blow to a family dynasty that has ruled Syria for four decades—and any change to the leadership could transform some of the most enduring alliances in the Middle East and beyond.

The attacks on the buses

carrying Turkish citizens took place near the central Syrian city of Homs, where opposition to the regime is high.

One of the bus drivers, Erhan Surmeli, said he was taking 25 butchers back to Turkey from Saudi Arabia following the Muslim festival of Eid Al-Adha, or the feast of sacrifice.

"We had stopped at a checkpoint," Surmeli told The Associated Press by telephone from a Turkish hospital near the Syrian border. "Syrian soldiers emerged from behind sandbags and cursed Erdogan when we told them we were Turks. Then they suddenly opened fire at the bus."

The vehicle crossed into Turkey with at least one smashed window, video from the Turkish Dogan news agency showed.

Syria's uprising has grown increasingly violent in recent months. Army defectors who sided with the revolt have grown bolder in recent weeks, fighting back against regime forces and even attacking military bases—raising fears of a civil war.

WORLD BRIEFS

Egypt Cabinet offers to resign but protests go on

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's civilian Cabinet offered to resign Monday after three days of violent clashes between demonstrators and security forces in Tahrir Square, but the action failed to satisfy protesters deeply frustrated with the new military rulers. The Health Ministry and a doctor at an improvised field hospital on the square

said at least 26 people have been killed and 1,750 wounded in the latest violence as activists sought to fill the streets for a "second revolution" to force out the generals who have failed to stabilize the country, salvage the economy or bring democracy. Throughout the day, young protesters demanding the military hand over power to a civilian

government fought with black-clad police, hurling stones and firebombs and throwing back the tear gas canisters being fired by police into the square, which was the epicenter of the movement that ousted authoritarian leader Hosni Mubarak.

3 police officers found dead in Mexico border city

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico (AP)—Assailants kidnapped and killed three police officers in the Mexican border city of Acuna, authorities said Monday. Acuna Public Safety Department said in a statement that the three were on patrol in the same unit when gunmen kidnapped them early Monday. The officer's bodies were found an hour later in a residential area of Acuna, which is

across the border from Del Rio, Texas. They had been shot and their hands were handcuffed, the police department said.

Somalia govt: Ethiopian troops 'need a mandate'

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—A Somali government spokesman on Monday denied that Ethiopian troops have entered Somalia to help fight insurgents despite several witnesses reporting the movement of troops. Abdirahman Omar Osman said Ethiopian troops would only be welcome if they had an international mandate or a bilateral agreement with the Somali government, but there is currently no such agreement. "We believe that they are not in the country," he said. "We deny it."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Prosecutor: Defendants share blame with Pol Pot

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—Pol Pot's close confederates cannot solely blame their late leader for the atrocities that took place under Cambodia's Khmer Rouge regime, a prosecutor at the country's U.N.-backed genocide tribunal said Tuesday. Andrew Cayley said that like Pol Pot, the three aging former members of the regime now on trial exercised life-and-death authority over Cambodia while in power in 1975-79. "The accused cannot credibly claim they did

not know and had no control over the crimes that occurred" when the group ruled what they called Democratic Kampuchea, he said.

2 NATO troops killed in southern Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says two of its service members have been killed in southern Afghanistan. The coalition said on Tuesday that one service member died in an insurgent attack and the other was killed in a roadside bombing. No other details were disclosed about the deaths, which occurred on Monday.

3,000 police protest in Sydney over benefit change

SYDNEY, Australia (AP)—About 3,000 protesting police officers have turned the grounds outside the state parliament in Sydney into a sea of blue uniforms as they demonstrate against planned changes to the way injured officers are compensated. Officers are upset at plans to alter the New South Wales state's Death and Disability Scheme. The changes would restrict some compensation payouts and place more emphasis on getting injured officers rehabilitated and back to work.

Campus Life

Tinian schools present Education Day awards



Demonstrating unity of spirit and cause, as well as the close-knit relationships among the people of Tinian, the Education Day activities on Tinian were conducted jointly by the Tinian Elementary School faculty and staff and the Tinian Junior Senior High School faculty and staff.

Tinian Junior/Senior High School presented its Education Day awards to the school's outstanding employees yesterday.

The Outstanding Employees of the Year who were recognized are as follows: Mariana Omengkar (1st grade teacher), Teacher of the Year; Nida Dosalua (Special Education), Teacher Aide of the Year; Julita Diaz, Support Staff of the Year (Administration); Rodel Manlulu, Support Staff of the Year (Maintenance); and Victor Linan, Support Staff of the Year.

Brothers, sisters, and cousins

(Pupil Transportation). The Education Day activities were conducted jointly by the TES faculty and staff and the TJSHS faculty and staff.

While the adults enjoyed presentations by both the Head Start students and the TJSHS Performing Arts students, the children enjoyed watching dance performances by the TES Cowboys and Cowgirls, as well as the TJSHS staff and faculty "Senior Stallion Battalion."

from Head Start to graduating seniors shared lunch at the one table, while Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz provided freshly barbecued lunch for both faculties and staff at another.

Dela Cruz, officers of the Tinian PTSAs, TJSHS principal Julian Hofschneider, and TES principal Dionne Santos presented awards and commendations to members of both the TES and TJSHS faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to educating the island's youth. (PR)

KHS student selected to join National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Kagman High School sophomore was selected to join the National Youth Leadership Forum to be held in the U.S. mainland next summer.

Jace Pineda, the daughter of Elmer and Tess Pineda, was personally selected by the national organization because of her academic excellence, leadership potential, and interest in a career in medicine. Pineda dreams of becoming a pediatrician.

The National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine introduces outstanding high school students to the world of medicine. This program familiarizes students with the various professions available in the medical field. With close cooperation from the nation's most prestigious and technologically advanced hospitals, research facilities, and medical schools, students attending the forum on medicine are challenged and motivated as they focus on a broad range of topics, including educational requirements, career options, clinical practice and complex ethical and legal issues facing the medical profession today.

Pineda graduated as the most



Jace Pineda

outstanding student in her class during her middle school year in 2010 and has been a consistent honor student since her elementary days.

The 15-year-old student said Monday she is proud and excited to receive the good news from the dean of academic affairs, Dr. Marguerite C. Regan.

"I am happy and proud that I was invited to this prestigious forum where I expect to learn valuable lessons that will help me in my desire to become a pediatrician in the future," said Pineda.

In her letter to Pineda dated Nov. 10, Dr. Regan said the NYLF on Medicine "is dedicated to helping prepare you—perhaps one of our nation's future physicians or leaders in the field of medicine—for the opportunities and responsibilities which lie ahead."

According to Regan, the forum's intensive daylong concentrations will allow Pineda to examine state-of-the-art diagnostic tools and future medical specialties in detail. She said the student will also be inspired and motivated in the forum as the nation's most distinguished medical leaders and research pioneers will be among the keynote speakers. Participants in the forum will also visit various medical institutions.

By attending the forum, Pineda may also receive college credit through George Mason University.

Pineda expects to gain valuable lessons and experiences from experts during the 10-day event. She said her school and family will organize fundraisers for her airfare and other expenses during the forum. Among these is the hot-lunch fundraiser on Dec. 10. Pineda estimates the cost of her travel and other expenses to amount to \$5,000.



CAREER DAY

The Saipan Southern High School held its annual Career Day on Nov. 22, 2011, inviting a number of professionals to share their field of expertise. Along with 13 students, in the photo are front row left to right: Shirley Sablan, Pacifica Insurance general manager, Michelle Lin-Sablan, Iridescent Boutique owner, and Diann Torres, classroom teacher. The topic of focus from both presenters through a collaborative effort was the field of business and entrepreneurship. Certificates of appreciation were given to both presenters courtesy of the participating students. The photo was taken inside the SSHS computer class where the presentation was held.

Coast guard participates in school festival

GUAM—Members of the U.S. Coast Guard and Coast Guard Spouses participated in the annual Octoberfest at Merizo Martyrs Memorial Elementary School on Oct. 31, 2011. Twenty-three Coast Guard volunteers took part in the action; manning booths for face painting, coco-

nut bowling and other carnival type activities.

The event was well-attended by students and parents alike. Despite a couple of rain showers during the day, there was no evidence of dampened enthusiasm among the students, who cheered when it was announced

that school would be in session the following day.

The Coast Guard has a special relationship with the village of Merizo, which dates back to World War II, when local residents sheltered Coast Guardsmen from Japanese forces taking possession of the island. (USCG)



Twenty-three Coast Guard volunteers took part in the annual Octoberfest at Merizo Martyrs Memorial Elementary School on Oct. 31, 2011.

Life & Style

Hugh Grant: Non-Murdoch tabloid hacked me in 2007

LONDON (AP)—Actor Hugh Grant told a London courtroom Monday about the dark side of celebrity life, describing mysterious break-ins, leaked medical details and hacked voice mails—and laying blame on the entire tabloid press, not just the now-shuttered News of the World.

Grant's testimony to a judge-led media ethics inquiry capped a tough day for Britain's beleaguered press. Earlier, the parents of a murdered schoolgirl whose phone was targeted by the tabloid described how the hacking had given them false hope that their daughter was still alive.

Grant said he believes his phone was hacked by Britain's Mail on Sunday tabloid—the first time he has implicated a newspaper not owned by media mogul Rupert Murdoch in the wrongdoing. The actor said a 2007 story about his romantic life in the paper, owned by Murdoch rival Associated Newspapers Ltd., could only have been obtained through eavesdropping on his voice mails.

He said he could not think of any other way the newspaper could have obtained the story alleging that his romance with Jemima Khan was on the rocks because of his conversations with a "plummy voiced" woman the paper identified as a film studio executive.

Grant said there was no such woman, but he did receive voice messages from the assistant of a movie producer friend.

"She would leave charming, joking messages... and she had a voice that can only be described as plummy," he said.

Grant sued the newspaper for libel and won.

Challenged about whether

he had hard evidence, Grant acknowledged he was speculating.

"But ... I'd love to hear what the Daily Mail or the Sunday Mail's explanation of what that source was if it wasn't phone hacking," he said.

The Mail on Sunday said in a statement said that it "utterly refutes" Grant's suggestion it had hacked his phone and described his comments as "smears."

Over two and a half hours of testimony, Grant—by turns charming and censorious—described years of tabloid pursuit that began after his breakthrough hit, "Four Weddings and a Funeral," in 1994. Incidents included a mysterious break-in at his apartment during which nothing was stolen. Descriptions of the apartment later appeared in a tabloid newspaper.

He also said an article published earlier this year in The Sun and Daily Express about his visit to a hospital emergency room was "a gross intrusion of my privacy."

"I think no one would expect their medical records to be made public or to be appropriated by newspapers for commercial profit," he said. "That is fundamental to our British sense of decency."

And he said paparazzi had hounded Tinglan Hong, the mother of Grant's baby daughter, despite the actor's efforts to keep his paternity secret. He said he did not attend the baby's birth in late September, but the next day, "I couldn't resist a quick visit."

"There seems to have been a leak from the hospital," Grant said. "They even knew the fake name she had checked into the hospital under."

Grant had initially refused to confirm the baby was his, but earlier this month released a statement acknowledging it. He told the inquiry that the statement—intended in part to rebuff claims he had "jilted" Hong, with whom he remains friendly—had been composed during a phone call with his publicist while he was on a film set in Germany.

"It was not ideal circumstances," Grant said. "I was dressed as a cannibal at the time."

Prime Minister David Cameron set up the inquiry into media ethics in response to an evolving scandal over phone hacking in Britain. Murdoch shut down the discredited News of the World tabloid in July after evidence emerged that it had routinely eavesdropped on the voice mails of public figures, celebrities and even crime victims in its search for scoops.

The inquiry, led by Judge Brian Leveson, plans to issue a report next year and could recommend major changes to the way the media in Britain are regulated.

Grant, who has become an outspoken campaigner against press intrusion, called for a media code of ethics and tougher regulation.

"There has been a section of our press that has been allowed to become toxic over the past 20 or 30 years," he said, urging Britain to find the courage to stand up to tabloid "bullies."

Grant is one of a string of high-profile witnesses, including actress Sienna Miller and author J.K. Rowling, who will testify about how they were followed, photographed, entrapped and harassed by journalists from Brit-



Bob Dowlers said he recognized immediately that the information was "dynamite." News that tabloid journalists had targeted not just celebrities but a murdered girl shocked many Britons and triggered a police investigation and media recriminations that are still unfolding.

The Dowlers took the stand together and spoke in quiet, composed voices during their 30 minutes of nationally televised testimony.

They described their shock and anger when a private walk to retrace their missing daughter's last steps was secretly photographed by the tabloid.

"It just felt like such an intrusion into a really, really private grief moment," Sally Dowler said. The couple said they later realized that their own phone, as well as their daughter's, had been hacked.

More than a dozen News of the World journalists and editors have been arrested and several senior Murdoch executives have resigned over the still-evolving scandal. Two top London police officers also lost their jobs, along with Cameron's media adviser.

Later this week the inquiry will hear from "Harry Potter" author Rowling, comedian Steve Coogan, actress Miller and former Formula One boss Max Mosley—whose taste for sadomasochism was revealed in a widely publicized News of the World sting.

It's a courtroom lineup that Britain's celebrity-obsessed tabloids would love, if only they weren't the ones in the dock.

British actor Hugh Grant arrives to give evidence at the the Leveson inquiry in London, Monday, Nov. 21, 2011.

ain's tabloids, which collectively sell millions of copies a day.

The first witnesses Monday were the parents of murdered teenager Milly Dowler, whose mobile phone voice mails were hacked after she disappeared in 2002. Her mother told the inquiry that she believed her missing 13 year old was still alive once she reached the girl's previously full voice mailbox.

Sally Dowler said when she could finally leave a message on Milly's voice mail weeks after the girl disappeared, she shouted: "She's picked up the voice mails! ... She's alive!"

In fact, messages had been deleted by someone working for the News of the World while the Dowlers and police were still searching for Milly, who was later found dead.

The Dowlers said they had been utterly shocked when police told them, much later, that Milly's phone had been hacked.

Penguin suspends library e-books, citing security

NEW YORK (AP)—One of the country's largest publishers, Penguin Group (USA), has suspended making e-editions of new books available to libraries and won't allow libraries to loan any e-books for Amazon.com's Kindle.

"We have always placed a high value on the role that libraries can play in connecting our authors with our readers," the publisher announced in a statement Monday. "However, due to new concerns about the security of our digital editions, we find it necessary to delay the availability of our new titles in the digital format while we resolve these concerns with our business partners."

For non-Kindle users, the policy does not affect e-books already on library catalogs. Penguin's authors include Patricia Cornwell, Ken Follett and Ron Chernow, and new books include Sue Grafton's "V for Vengeance" and Rep. Michele Bachmann's "Core of Conviction."

The publisher did not cite any specific titles in its release and did not immediately respond to requests from The Associated

library patrons to download e-books might harm sales. Simon & Schuster and Macmillan don't make any e-books available to libraries, and HarperCollins has restricted their usage, a policy that angered libraries when announced last year.

OverDrive CEO Steve Potash said Monday that his company and Penguin were "in the process of looking at new terms" for libraries but declined to say what the terms were.

While borrowing e-books from libraries has become more difficult, buying books—Penguin's included—through libraries is becoming easier. Starting Monday, patrons using the New York Public Library's website who wish to purchase a title can click a Buy it Now tab that links to participating sellers. The library receives a portion of the proceeds, and Potash said he expects the program will soon expand nationwide and into Canada and the United Kingdom.

Sellers involved so far are Barnes & Noble; BooksOn-Board, an independent e-store; and Amazon.

US returns stolen painting to Germany

BERLIN (AP)—An American university returned a 15th century painting to a Berlin museum on Monday, more than six decades after the valuable piece was stolen in the chaotic aftermath of World War II.

The Flagellation of Christ was one of more than a dozen paintings that disappeared from Berlin's Jagdschloss Grunewald museum during the summer of 1945, looted by British and Russian soldiers.

The painting, which originally formed a wing of an altarpiece, was later sold and ended up in the Indiana University Museum of Bloomington.

"One of the many tragedies associated with World War II was the loss of countless works of art that were stolen, confiscated, looted, pillaged or destroyed," Michael McRobbie, the president of Indiana University, said during a handover ceremony at the German capi-

tal's Charlottenburg Palace.

The university returned the oil-on-oak painting voluntarily

to what it called "its rightful owners" after it was first contacted in 2004 by the Prussian Palaces and Gardens Foundation which oversees the Jagdschloss Grunewald museum.

The 19.7 inches x 19.7 inches (50cm x 50cm) panel, depicts Jesus, blood-covered and bound to a pillar, surrounded by four men who are beating him with whips. It was created by an unknown artist of the "Cologne School" in the 1480s. Experts consider work attributed to the artist to be the best of the period.

The painting was stolen from the German museum by a British soldier in 1945 and bought by the former president of the University of Indiana, Herman Wells, from a London art gallery in 1967. Wells, who was not aware that he had bought

Both the Indiana museum and its German counterpart refused to give the exact value of the painting, but said the work was very valuable and priceless in its importance to art history.

Rihanna can 'Talk That Talk,' but can she walk the walk?

By RANDALL ROBERTS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Were she willing to tip her hand a little earlier, Rihanna might have considered kicking off her new album, "Talk That Talk," with "Watch n' Learn," which appears near the end of the 11-song release and best captures the Barbados-born singer's most prominent obsession. On it, Rihanna, who over the last half-decade has risen to become one of the most successful pop artists in the world, outlines the myriad ways in which she'll have her way with a lover.

On the bed, on the couch, on the floor, till you're making faces, till you can't take it no more, slow, until her lipstick ain't up on her face no more. Rihanna reels off her carnal intentions with an impressive though not entirely believable candor.

The 23-year-old star, who's been gliding toward the edges of pop propriety since her first hit in 2005, has progressively pushed toward NC-17 territory, moving from the insinuation of "Umbrella" to the naughtier "Hard" and the Caribbean-flavored murder ballad "Man Down," from 2010's "Loud." The parental warning stickers have done wonders for her career, but the sauciness sometimes borders on shtick.

That said, "Talk That Talk" is not entirely sex-obsessed. For balance's sake, and because she's making music in the pop realm and beholden to relatively conservative mores, Rihanna on "Talk That Talk" also harnesses her producers and songwriters—including Dr. Luke, StarGate, Alex Da Kid, The-Dream and others—to focus love above the waist and how passion affects

Even the slower songs feature double-snare riddims that suggest energy, even when paced down; overall, the bass is heavier, the sounds are nastier, and by the second half of

both the body and the mind. Throughout, she plays on the idea that we all want the same thing out of life—to be "drunk on love" (as she sings in a song of the same name).

She eases into her bed over the course of the album, first with a loving confession—"You Da One," a Dr. Luke-produced jam with a hint of Jamaican roots reggae and a punchy synthetic rhythm—then with wandering desire and heartbroken regret. There are odes to bad love—"We Found Love"—and universal love—"We All Want Love." "Drunk on Love," which samples the slow-burn melody of the XX's "Intro," finds Rihanna confessing that love is the only thing she needs.

She delivers her sentiments inside a pan-American pop sound with a hint of the long musical conversation between the Caribbean and Americas. It's a stylistic accent that she's carried with her from Barbados, though she employs it with her collaborators enough to suggest her lineage without alienating Middle America. She can slip into a convincing patois when so inclined but seldom does so on "Talk That Talk."

Rather, Rihanna wants her music to bang, and she does so by continuing to mine the connection between R&B, hip-hop and house. A few of these tracks, most obviously "We Found Love," her collaboration with Scottish producer Calvin Harris, and "Where Have You Been," wouldn't be out of place at Electric Daisy Carnival.

Even the slower songs feature double-snare riddims that suggest energy, even when paced down; overall, the bass is heavier, the sounds are nastier, and by the second half of



Rihanna arrives at the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards held at the Staples Center on February 13, 2011 in Los Angeles, California.

LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

the record, Rihanna's intentions are decidedly, unapologetically ... hornier. Call it Technotronic on steroids, Lady Gaga on Viagra, Millie Jackson on ecstasy: These are pumped-up hits aimed at the pelvic region.

But ultimately, Rihanna's making only superficially dangerous music. Without the visual prompting of her music videos, even the bawdiest lyrics are kept within the realm of average American propriety. Yes, there's some breast and booty, but Bo Carter was way raunchier in the 1930s with "It's Done Got Wet" and "Pin in Your Cushion" than Rihanna is in 2011 with "Cockiness (Love It)" and "Birthday Cake," both of which feature lyrics that wouldn't seem out of place on Spinal Tap's "Smell the Glove." ("... cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake, cake/ I know you wanna bite this.")

For all the innuendo and introspection, "Talk That Talk" contains little sweat, slobber or fluids and a lot of plasticized, inflatable insinuation. (Recall her song "S&M," which name-checked whips and chains without ever having to use the words sadism or masochism.)

The hottest lines on the album come nearly as an afterthought on the all-too-brief "Birthday Cake," produced by The-Dream. "I know you wanna bite this/ It's so enticin'/ Nothin' else like this/ I'mma make you my bitch," she sings. But as if the network censors had let the song run before realizing their mistake, a little over a minute into it the music fades out, just as it's getting dirty, leaving us wondering whether Rihanna really believes what she's selling on "Talk That Talk."

10 biggest film franchises of all time

By BARRY KOLTNOW
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Imagine that your family owns a hen that lays golden eggs. The hen lays her golden eggs only once every year or two, but each egg is worth a billion dollars.

Life on the farm is good.

Then imagine that your hen announces her retirement and never lays another egg.

You now have some idea of what it's like to be an executive at Summit Entertainment. Summit is the company responsible for all those "Twilight" movies.

On the one hand, you're thrilled that the first half of the two-part finale is opening. With crazed fans pitching tents in front of theaters, you are pretty much guaranteed an obscene pay day. And then, when the second part of the finale opens a year from now, there will be another fortune to be made.

And then it will end. The franchise will be over. Author Stephenie Meyer's ode to young vampire love will have run its course, just as dozens of other film franchises have come to an end since the early days of Hollywood.

Even the "Police Academy" movies had to end sometime.

It doesn't matter that the studio already has made \$1.8 billion at the box office, and sold 25 million DVDs, for the first three "Twilight" movies. It's never enough. It always hurts when it ends. Somebody was counting on that additional income to build a bedroom above the garage for the adult children who are planning to move back home. But I digress.

Film franchises play a critical role in the business of making

movies. And it's not just about the money. Well, it really is about the money, but people in Hollywood are fond of pointing out that, from an artistic standpoint, those franchises help to finance the "small" movies that win Oscars, tug on heartstrings and make social commentary.

And did we mention the money?

Warner Bros. executives know exactly how the Summit Entertainment executives feel, having recently bid a tearful farewell to their "Harry Potter" franchise. It happens to every studio in Hollywood. One day, a pint-sized wizard in glasses buys you a nice Lexus convertible, and the next day, he's a grown-up actor appearing naked on Broadway. Who among us haven't heard the same sob story in our own family?

Anyway, with the opening of "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn—Part 1," and the eventual closing of that money machine, we thought we'd take a look back at the biggest film franchises of all time.

These franchises are not listed according to artistic merit. Film franchises are not about art. They are about money, although one could argue that the reason they make so much money is because they entertain millions of people. Call it the art of entertaining people.

Still, artistic considerations aside, it is about the money, so here are the most profitable film franchises in history, in order of their domestic box office grosses.

1. "Harry Potter"—These eight films were to the movie business what these seven books were to the publishing industry, with 116 million copies sold in 50 countries.

2. "Star Wars"—It is hard to believe that there was a time when the Force wasn't part of our world, but if you want to put a date on

it, it would be May 24, 1977. That's the day before the first movie opened in theaters, and changed geekdom forever.

3. James Bond—in 1962, "Dr. No" said yes to a franchise that would stretch over five decades and nearly two dozen films. Everybody has their favorite 007, and all the people who don't think it is Sean Connery are wrong.

4. Batman—This franchise is so strong that it survived "Batman & Robin."

5. "Shrek"—Let's put it this way; "Puss in Boots," a spin-off movie based on a relatively minor character from the main franchise, has grossed more than \$100 million in just three weeks.

6. "Pirates of the Caribbean"—After five movies, and countless close-up shots of Johnny Depp's cheekbones, it is easy to forget that this was based on a ride at Disneyland that wasn't Space Mountain.

7. "Spider-Man"—Sometimes, a studio suffers from serious separation anxiety and refuses to let go. That may explain why they're making another "Spider-Man" movie.

8. "Transformers"—This trilogy was so financially successful that even the second film, which the filmmakers and stars conceded was a mess, made a billion dollars.

9. "The Lord of the Rings"—"The Hobbit," which is being filmed in New Zealand as we speak, continues the franchise that has not only included a best picture Oscar-winner, but has made enough money to create a real world called Middle-earth.

10. "Star Trek"—This franchise has gone where no other franchise has gone before—making the successful transition from one set of characters to another.

Barry Koltnow: bkoltnow@ocregister.com

Rob Kardashian tops 'Dancing' leaderboard

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rob Kardashian swung to the top of the "Dancing with the Stars" leaderboard Monday.

The 24-year-old reality TV star and his professional partner, Cheryl Burke, waltzed ahead of the competition on the ABC ballroom contest's final dance-off. Kardashian and Burke nabbed a combined 57 out of a possible 60 for a breezy waltz and dizzying swing-era freestyle routine that garnered Kardashian his first perfect 30 of the season.

"Never would I ever have thought that I'd get a perfect score, and we did it with the hardest freestyle," he said.

U.S. Army veteran J.R. Martinez and TV personality Ricki Lake tied for second place with 54. Lake remained consistent with a 27 for both her cha-cha and a freestyle number that incorporated everything from quickstep to salsa moves, while Martinez earned a 24 for a so-so cha-cha before winning a perfect 30 for his high-energy salsa-inspired freestyle.



In this Nov. 7, 2011 file photo released by ABC, Rob Kardashian, right, and Cheryl Burke perform on the celebrity dance competition series "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles.

Gaga taps her inner Wonka for holiday workshop

NEW YORK (AP)—For the grand opening of Gaga's Workshop, it seemed as if Lady Gaga chartered a sleigh, picked up Santa Claus and Willy Wonka along the way and landed Monday night at Barneys New York flagship on Madison Avenue.

The Workshop is the retailer's in-store holiday shop, conceived, designed and christened by Lady Gaga—5,500 square feet of bright colors, crazy shapes and a gigantic cartoon statue of the superstar herself in a pinup pose surrounded by jagged mirrors and sitting atop thousands of black plastic discs.

New "Twilight" film breaks UK box office records

LONDON (AP)—The Twilight vampires broke U.K. box office records over the weekend.

"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1" grossed 13.9 million pounds (\$21.8 million) on its 3-day weekend, according to U.K. and Irish distributor Entertainment One. That made it the biggest-ever opening for an American film in the U.K., fifth behind the British Harry Potter and James Bond series.

The fourth film in the "Twilight" series also had the best-ever U.K. 2D opening day Friday, surpassing "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" by grossing 6.35 million pounds (\$9.9 million) to Potter's 5.9 million pounds (\$9.2 million).

"Breaking Dawn Part 1" now has the biggest opening for a film in the U.K. in 2011.

Directed by Bill Condon, its stars Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner and Kristen Stewart.

From the street, passers-by get a hint of what's taken over the fifth floor of the store since Gaga and stylist Nicola Formichetti also created the seasonal window displays, always an attraction during the holidays, but the crowds typically don't start building hours before the unveiling as they did on Monday.

To keep them entertained, a troupe of clowns-turned-carolers sang some of Gaga's signature songs, including "The Edge of Glory" and "Born This Way."

"It's a 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' moment," Gaga

said. "We wanted it all to be whimsical and fun, with a sense of art and fashion."

She doesn't have time to do much holiday shopping anymore, she explained, but Christmas was a special time in her "traditional Italian house," where the smell of food cooking all day is one of her fondest childhood memories. As for gifts, her favorite as a teenager was a ticket to see a Tori Amos concert.

She pointed out at Barneys the hair bows attached to headbands, iPhone and iPad covers and stiletto-heel holiday stockings as potential hits for her

fans. It was, however, the composition notebooks splashed with her logo that she'd put at the top of the list.

"I hope they'll be given as gifts this year," she said.

Gaga had many elves for this project, including Formichetti, whom she called the "art director" for it all. He oversaw the day-to-day development of decor and products—each one exclusive.

"This was very personal and very emotional for us," said Formichetti, who also helps design Gaga's concert costumes and personal wardrobe.



Murray

Murray had been giving Jackson nightly doses of propofol to help the singer sleep as he prepared for a series of comeback concerts.

Deputy District Attorney David Walgren contended there was no legal basis for the testing and said Murray received a fair trial.

Pastor examined the propofol vial, which was found in the closet of Jackson's bedroom, before issuing his ruling.

Flanagan said it didn't occur to him that the contents of the vial should be tested until after the conclusion of Murray's trial, which ended Nov. 7 with the conviction of the cardiologist on an involuntary manslaughter charge.

Flanagan said if prosecution expert Dr. Steven Shafer's theory is correct, the small amount of liquid that remained in the vial should contain lidocaine. In that case, "that's the ballgame" and would prove Murray did leave the singer alone on an IV drip, Flanagan said.

Defense lawyer J. Michael Flanagan argued the results would reveal the accuracy of a theory by a prosecution expert who testified that Murray left Jackson's bedside while the singer was on an IV drip of propofol and the painkiller lidocaine.

Flanagan also argued that

Shafer didn't tell jurors that he believed Murray injected lidocaine into the propofol vial until Shafer was called as a rebuttal witness in the final moments of testimony.

Walgren said Shafer and other witnesses acknowledged that they didn't know exactly what happened in Jackson's bedroom before the singer's death on June 25, 2009. Shafer was one of several experts who told jurors that he could only theorize on events based on toxicology results, Murray's statements to police and evidence found at the scene.

"Whether there was lidocaine in that bottle or not is completely irrelevant," Walgren said.

Murray is set to be sentenced on Nov. 29. Walgren said he is finalizing work on a sentencing memorandum and several people may speak during the hearing. He did not say whether members of Jackson's family, several of whom attended the trial daily, would offer statements.

Couple considering sex must first explore their feelings

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I'm a freshman in college and have the sweetest boyfriend in the world. We've always been close and trusted each other, never pushing the other too far. I always thought it was innocent and safe.

Last weekend, though, things got a little heavy between us. We stopped before anything happened, but I felt dirty afterward. As I thought about it, I realized that, to me, it had seemed OK that our relationship was starting to take a more intimate turn.

Is it wrong for me to think this way? I don't know how to bring up the "sex talk" with him without seeming desperate or like I'm rushing things. What should I do?

NEEDS TO KNOW IN VIRGINIA



Dear Abby

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You and your boyfriend are normal, healthy young adults. If this is the first time you and a young man have gotten "a little heavy," then it's not surprising that you felt conflicted, depending upon how you were raised to think about premarital relations.

However, because you have now progressed to the point of physical intimacy, it is important that you and your boyfriend talk about last weekend and what may happen in the future. Share your feelings and ask how HE feels about what happened and what he would like to happen going forward. That's not desperate or rushing things—that is communication. True intimacy involves the mutual sharing of thoughts and feelings in a relationship.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: A few weeks ago, my wife returned from a business meeting out of town. After unpacking, she took a bath. I happened into the bathroom just as she finished drying off. When she saw me, she grabbed a towel and held it over her shoulder and breast, but not before I spotted a hickey and bruise on her chest.

When I asked her about the hickey, she said she had no idea what had caused it. After that, she refused to discuss the matter. The hickey faded and disappeared after two or three weeks.

Yesterday she agreed to take a polygraph test, but how do we go about arranging one? Your thoughts?

TROUBLED HUSBAND IN TEXAS

DEAR TROUBLED HUSBAND: If your marriage is on such thin ice that you need a lie detector test to determine if your wife is telling the truth, you may need the services of a family law specialist.

You asked my opinion, and here it is: From my perspective, you and your wife could benefit more from some truth sessions with a marriage counselor than with a polygraph examiner. However, one way to find a polygraph examiner would be to Google "polygraph examiners in Texas." Another would be to consult an attorney about a referral.

■ ■ ■

And now, Dear Readers, allow me to again share the traditional Thanksgiving Prayer that was penned by my dear mother, Pauline Phillips. No Thanksgiving would be complete for me without it:

Oh, Heavenly Father,
We thank Thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank Thee for health and remember the sick.
We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service,
That Thy gifts to us may be used for others. Amen.
Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

Love, ABBY

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

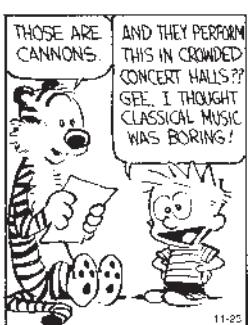
Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby* — Cookbook Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Watterson



Garfield®



By Jim Davis



Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Pump up the volume	41 Arrangement
4 Pool-room supply	1 Actress
8 Vase-shaped jug	43 Machu Picchu's place
12 Maui souvenir	44 Slithery squeezer
13 Frizzy hairstyle	46 Civil War victors
14 Tragic	50 Not merely embarrassed
15 Proscribe	55 Modern-day evidence
16 Gave a sermon	56 Disturb
18 Seaweed, e.g.	57 Advantage
20 Mr. Sajak	58 Freddy's street
21 Amorphous mass	59 Old woman's home?
24 "La — Vita"	60 Merino, e.g.
28 Additionally	61 Nay
32 Streamlet	62 Egg
33 Lawyers' org.	Solution time: 21 mins.
34 Big brass	LIED REDO FAD AGRE ATOM UTE GEHMINATE LOW OTIS LUMPY SECTS PERI IHUE COATINGS AIL SODAS ALE REMEMBER STOW IRAS POEMS BONER OAHU ANA TERMINATE ACT ERGO DUAL SEE RAYS SKIM
36 Unruly bunch	
37 Daughters' counterparts	
39 Lien of a sort	

Yesterday's answer 11-23

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Miley Cyrus, 19; Salli Richardson-Whitfield, 44; Robin Roberts, 51; Bruce Hornsby, 57.

Happy Birthday: Speak up, but do so with diplomacy. Anger will get you nowhere. Have your plan ready to display and execute. Show willingness to accept the inevitable and to promote whatever changes will benefit everyone. Something you've experienced in the past will help you find a way to undermine any opposition you come up against. Your numbers are 6, 11, 20, 28, 32, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get all of your paperwork in order. You have to know where you stand financially before you can make any decisions that will affect your home or family. Once you have a clear picture, you can make a very quick and prosperous deal. ☀☀

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You'll tend to overreact regarding personal matters and relationships. You are best keeping things very low-key until you have a more objective view of your situation. Channel your energy into learning and self-improvement. ☀☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Business and personal relationships will flourish with a little charm and encouragement. Use your imagination and you will make a good contribution to a job or project. Love is on the rise and can lead to a stronger commitment. ☀☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep a close watch over what everyone around you is doing and saying before you choose to make a move that will be difficult to reverse.

Bide your time and you will have a clearer awareness of what's actually happening. ☀☀☀☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't let your emotions take over. You have to follow your head, not your heart, if you want to come out on top. Socializing, networking and meeting with new people will all lead to positive changes. Don't settle for less than what you want. ☀☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Open up discussions that will help you resolve any pending problems at home. You will learn from the people you encounter and can add this knowledge to your resume. Experience will help you choose your friends wisely. ☀☀☀☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The help you volunteer will be appreciated and bring you in contact with people you want to befriend. Mix business with pleasure and you will get ahead. Love is in a high cycle and will bring about a sudden change regarding your future. ☀☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your emotions will be difficult to control as your passionate nature escalates. Utilize your time wisely. Put your efforts into a creative pursuit and being with the one you love, or if single, finding your dream partner. ☀☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can stabilize your position if you lend a helping hand to someone who has the ability to affect your future. Honesty will play an important role in any discussion you have. Don't promise anything you cannot deliver. Love is on the rise. ☀☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful with your money. A secret could end up costing you. Stay aboveboard in all your transactions, and focus on building your assets, not your liabilities. Fixing up your home, buying something new or selling something you own will pay off. ☀☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Problems will develop if you are too flirtatious. Expect someone to overreact or to be indulgent, causing you grief. Love is in the stars, but doing the right thing will determine whether your personal situation is favorable. Proceed with caution. ☀

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Protect what you have from anyone who is looking for a handout. Love can cost you if you are too generous or if you try to buy favor. Don't argue over petty differences. Concentrate on financial, emotional and physical improvements. ☀☀☀☀

Birthday Baby: You are resilient, resourceful and relentless. You face adversity bravely. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

2			9						
	4		1						
4	3	8		7		5	1	6	
8			1	9	5			4	
5				4				3	
	7			6			5		
	1			5		3			
8			1				9		
5	6	3		7	4		8		

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	2	1	3	5	7	9	8	6
5	8	3	1	6	9	7	4	2
6	9	7	4	2	8	5	3	1
7	6	2	9	3	5	4	1	8
3	5	8	2	1	4	6	9	7
1	4	9	7	8	6	3	2	5
8	1	4	6	7	3	2	5	9
2	3	6	5	9	1	8	7	4
9	7	5	8	4	2	1	6	3

Difficulty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MANGROVE FORESTS

Solution: 11 letters

C	W	D	E	T	L	A	S	L	O	W	I	N	G	E
O	E	E	S	S	C	L	A	R	I	T	Y	L	T	
A	R	G	T	E	N	O	Z	U	T	B	F	G	O	
S	T	O	U	L	S	E	S	S	W	L	N	L	C	
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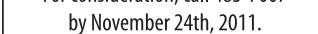
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• Must be willing to work from 3:00 in the morning.
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Interested applicants please send your resume to:
LFP Corp. dba Marg's Kitchen
P.O. Box 5527, CHRB.
Saipan, MP 96950
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE



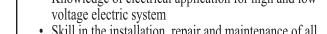
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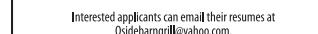
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• Must be willing to work from 3:00 in the morning.
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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Brady throws 2 TD passes, Pats beat Chiefs



FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP)—The Tom Brady-Rob Gronkowski connection kept clicking. The New England Patriots' defense and special teams kept rolling, too.

Brady threw two touchdown passes to Gronkowski, Julian Edelman returned a punt 72 yards for another score and Kyle Arrington had two interceptions to help the Patriots beat the Kansas City Chiefs 34-3 on Monday night.

The Patriots (7-3) increased their AFC East lead to two games.

The Chiefs (4-6) weren't expected to do much on offense behind untested quarterback Tyler Palko, making his first career start with Matt Cassel injured. And they didn't, managing just a 26-yard field goal by Ryan Succop with 1:30 left in the first quarter for their only lead.

With Gronkowski collecting his ninth and 10th TD receptions of the year, the Patriots had their second straight dominant game after beating the New York Jets 37-16. The Chiefs lost their third straight.

The Patriots didn't generate much of an attack during their first four series. There were with three punts and a fumble by Brady that was recovered by Kansas City's Allen Bailey on the first play of the second quarter. And on his next series, Brady was sacked twice.

Then the protection improved and Brady, who had thrown for just 19 yards in the first quarter, took advantage, leading three consecutive scoring drives.

He connected with Gronkowski for a 52-yard score when which the tight end caught the ball over the middle and scampered the last 35 yards, barely managing to remain inbounds on the right side as he neared the end zone.

Arrington, who leads the NFL with seven interceptions, got his first of the game on Kansas City's next series and Stephen Gostkowski made it 10-3 at halftime with a 21-yard field goal.

The Patriots got the ball to start the third quarter and marched 85 yards on nine plays, scoring on Brady's 19-yard pass to Gronkowski, who somersaulted into the right corner of the end zone after being hit by Derrick Johnson.

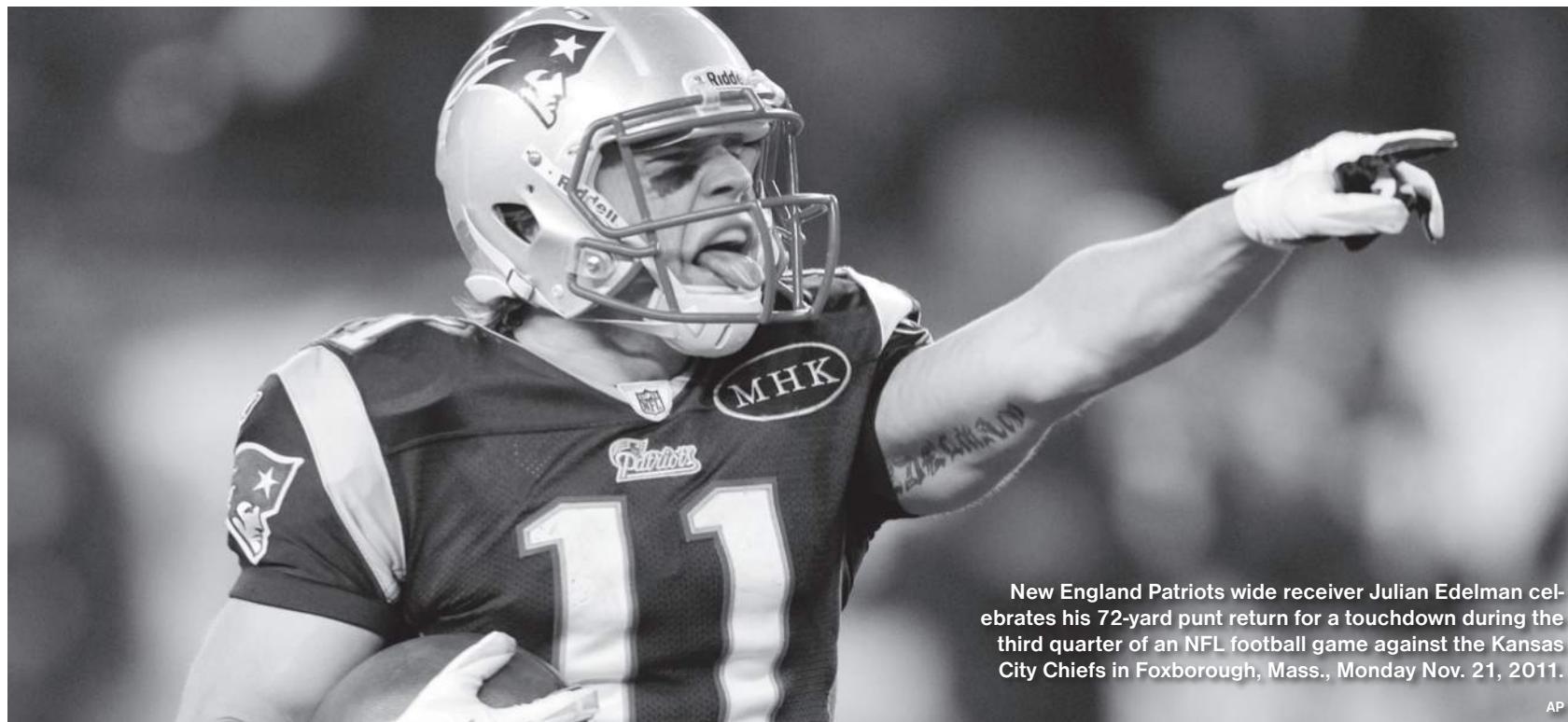
Gronkowski has 20 touchdowns in 26 games, surpassing Mike Ditka's mark of 31 for the fewest games needed by a tight end to reach 20 touchdowns. He also pulled within three of the single-season, tight-end record of 13 touchdown receptions held by Antonio Gates of San Diego and Vernon Davis of San Francisco.

Just 1:03 after Gronkowski's second touchdown, Edelman got his second punt-return touchdown of his career as the Patriots jumped to a 24-3 lead with 9:24 left in the third quarter.

Arrington picked off another pass on the Chiefs' next possession, leading to a 19-yard field goal by Stephen Gostkowski.

And just when it looked as if Palko, who had thrown just 13 passes before Monday night, might direct his team to a touchdown, he threw an interception to Phillip Adams in the end zone with 10:50 left in the game.

The Patriots finished the scoring on rookie Shane Vereen's first NFL touch-down on a 4-yard run with 1:01 left.



New England Patriots wide receiver Julian Edelman celebrates his 72-yard punt return for a touchdown during the third quarter of an NFL football game against the Kansas City Chiefs in Foxborough, Mass., Monday Nov. 21, 2011.

AP

In the last meeting between the teams, Brady went down with a season-ending knee injury in the 2008

opener and was replaced by Cassel. But he injured his right throwing hand in the Chiefs' last game, a 17-10

loss, and had season-ending surgery on Nov. 14.

Palko completed 25 of 38 passes

for 236 yards and three interceptions. Brady was 15 of 27 for 234 yards and no interceptions.

Cutler, Peterson among stars hurt in games

Bears quarterback Jay Cutler has a broken thumb, Titans QB Matt Hasselbeck is dealing with an injured right arm, and Vikings running back Adrian Peterson has a high left ankle sprain.

Those three stars were injured in games Sunday, placing their status in doubt not only for next weekend's games, but for a longer term.

Raiders receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey was feeling better a day after being carted off the field with his neck stabilized after the scary collision with Minnesota linebacker E.J. Henderson.

Cutler will undergo surgery on his right hand, a major blow for a team contending for a playoff spot in the NFC. Coach Lovie Smith said Cutler will be out "for an extended time" but expects to get him back this season. He would not say when the surgery would take place, just "hopefully fairly quick" and provided few details about the specific nature of the injury.

"Is it a season-ending injury? No," Smith said Monday. "From what I've

been told right now, we can expect him back at the end of the regular season."

Hasselbeck has no structural damage to his right forearm and elbow and likely will try to throw this week to see if he can play against Tampa Bay. He was hurt during the 23-17 loss in Atlanta when he hit his arm on a defender's helmet. Coach Mike Munchak isn't expecting the 13-year veteran to practice Wednesday.

On Monday, Kansas City placed its starting quarterback, Matt Cassel, on injured reserve with a broken right hand.

Peterson will be in a walking boot this week, leaving his availability for Sunday's game at Atlanta in question. Peterson has a Grade 1 sprain, the least severe of the three categories, with "a little bit of" ligament damage, coach Leslie Frazier said. Peterson will wear the boot for a few days to protect the joint and won't try to practice until Friday.

"The good news is there's nothing more serious than that," Frazier said, adding: "He'll recover from it. It's

just the amount of time that he'll miss. We'll have a better indication toward the end of the week."

Raiders coach Hue Jackson was encouraged by Heyward-Bey's condition.

"I think we're beyond the major part of it," Jackson said. "Now I think it's more of let's see how fast he heals and see exactly where he is. He had the neck, back issue and a concussion so we need to get him past those things."

Jackson also said he would not know the status of running back Darren McFadden and receiver Jacoby Ford until later in the week. Both players have been sidelined by a sprained foot.

Also hurt Sunday were Cardinals nose tackle Dan Williams, gone for the season with a broken left arm; Bills cornerback Terrence McGee (left knee), who also is likely done for 2011; and Buffalo running back Fred Jackson (right calf).

Sustaining concussions were Giants running back D.J. Ware, Cardinals

tackle Brandon Keith, and Browns fullback Owen Marecic.

49ers coach Jim Harbaugh expects a quick recovery for fullback Bruce Miller, who sustained a concussion during Sunday's win over Arizona. He didn't play in the second half.

"He's doing all right. He's doing good," Harbaugh said Monday. "I thought he was doing pretty darn good at halftime, too, when I checked on him. It's getting better. So, he's clearing up and I think he'll be fine."

Bills receiver Donnie Jones aggravated an ankle problem, while Carolina DE Charles Johnson hurt his left shoulder.

Packers RB James Starks has a sprained knee and a sore ankle, and Green Bay isn't sure if he can play in the Thanksgiving Day game at Detroit.

Starks hurt his knee late in the fourth quarter of Sunday's victory over Tampa Bay. The Packers did not practice Monday, but Starks likely would not have been able to go if they did.

Police probe of Syracuse assistant to take weeks



SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)—Syracuse Police said Monday it will take several weeks to investigate allegations by two former ball boys who said they were molested more than 25 years ago by a Syracuse University assistant basketball coach.

Onondaga County District Attorney William Fitzpatrick's office also is investigating the allegations lodged against Bernie Fine. Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner said police will not release information on the investigation "in piecemeal fashion."

Fine has been placed on paid administrative leave by the university. In his 36th season as an assistant to Hall of Fame coach Jim Boeheim, Fine has called the charges "patently false," asked for a quick review, and expressed confidence he would be vindicated.

Bobby Davis, now 39, told ESPN that Fine molested him beginning in 1984 and that sexual contact continued until he was around 27. A ball boy for six years, Davis said in a report that aired last Thursday that the abuse occurred at Fine's home, at Syracuse basketball facilities and on team road trips, including the 1987 Final Four, when the Orange lost to Indiana in the national championship game.

Davis' stepbrother, Mike Lang, 45, who also was a Syracuse ball boy, told ESPN that Fine molested him starting when he was in fifth or sixth grade.

Neither Davis nor Lang were available for comment despite repeated efforts by The Associated Press to reach them.

Davis previously reported his allegations to Syracuse police in 2002 and to the university in 2005. Police declined to pursue the case because the statute of limitations had expired, and the uni-

versity could not corroborate his claims during a four-month investigation.

Davis had said interviews with four other people would support his allegations, but all denied any knowledge of wrongful conduct by Fine, according to the university.

After fifth-ranked Syracuse beat Colgate on Saturday, Boeheim steadfastly defended Fine.

"I've been friends for 50 years with coach Fine, and that buys a lot of loyalty from me," Boeheim said. "It should."

Students were mostly gone from campus on Monday ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. A handful of protesters gathered near the main entrance and called for the elimination of the state's statute of limitations in child sex abuse cases.

"It's time to stop hiding behind the statute of limitations," said Richard

Tollner of the New York Coalition to Protect Children. "Children must have a voice."

Prosecutions in New York state for felony sex abuse of a child have to begin within five years after authorities learn about it, or within five years after a child turns 18.

Paul DerOhannesian, defense attorney and former Albany County prosecutor, said the five-year statute of limitations has clearly passed for any alleged crimes in this case if they took place in New York. Any out-of-state incidents during basketball road trips would be subject to the laws of those states, which might not have the same limits, he said.

DerOhannesian said the prosecutor also can bring information and witnesses before a grand jury to do a fact-finding report and recommend changes in the law.

Verlander wins AL MVP, 1st starter in 25 years



NEW YORK (AP)—Justin Verlander figured time had run out on his chance to become the first starting pitcher in a quarter-century to be voted Most Valuable Player.

Last Tuesday, he found out about 12:40 p.m. that he was a unanimous winner of the AL Cy Young Award. It was closing in on 1 p.m. Monday, and he still hadn't gotten word on the MVP.

"I had told myself that it wasn't going to happen," he said. "I figured somebody else got the call."

Not to worry, there was just a slight delay because Verlander didn't give the Baseball Writers' Association of America his telephone number, forcing the BBWAA to relay the news through Brian Britten, the Detroit Tigers' director of media relations.

Britten telephoned Verlander at 12:56 p.m., about one hour before the announcement.

"It was just a weight off my shoulders," Verlander said, "and pure elation, really."

After winning the AL's pitching triple crown by going 24-5 with a 2.40 ERA and 250 strikeouts, Verlander received 13 of 28 first-place votes and 280 points. He became the first pitcher voted MVP since Oakland's Dennis Eckersley in 1992 and the first starting pitcher since Boston's Roger Clemens in 1986.

"Obviously pitchers are not just written off all of a sudden because they're pitchers," Verlander said.

Boston center fielder Jacoby Ellsbury was second with four firsts and 242 points, followed by Toronto right fielder Jose Bautista with five firsts and 231 points, Yankees center fielder Curtis Granderson with 215 and Detroit first baseman Miguel Cabrera with 193.

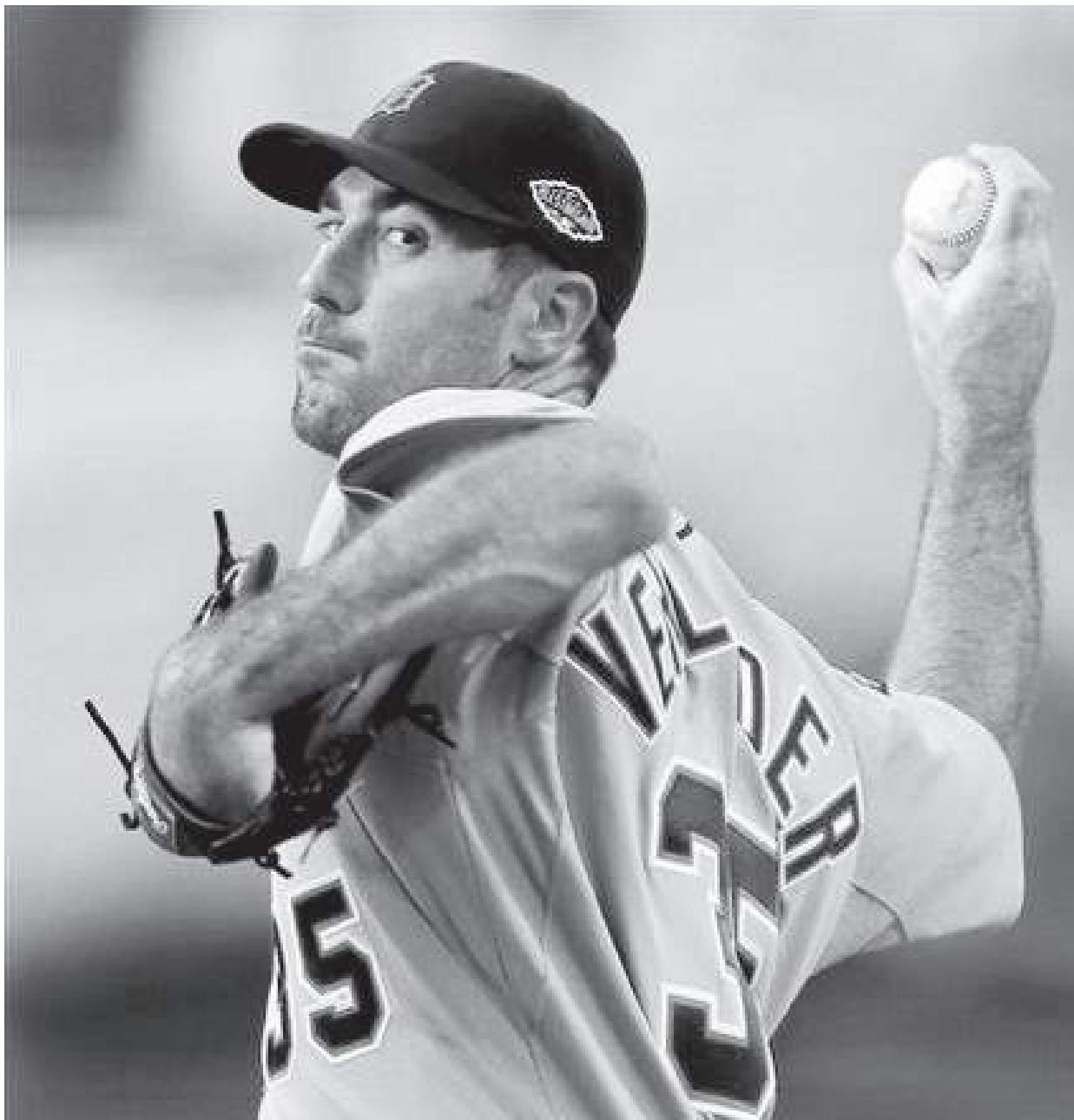
Recent history has been against pitchers. Since Eckersley's win, only once had a pitcher finished as high as second.

In 1999, Boston's Pedro Martinez was 13 points behind Texas catcher Ivan Rodriguez after going 23-4 with a 2.07 ERA and 313 strikeouts. Martinez had eight first-place votes to seven for Rodriguez, but La Velle Neal of the Minneapolis Star Tribune and George King of the New York Post left Martinez off their ballots.

"Not even in my wildest dreams had I thought of this," Verlander said during a conference call from his home in Virginia. "I want to say this is a dream come true. I can't say that because my dream had already had come true ... to win a Cy Young. And the next dream is to win a World Series. This wasn't even on my radar until the talk started. And then all of a sudden it was a this-could-actually-happen type of thing."

Verlander had the most wins in the major leagues since Oakland's Bob Welch went 27-6 in 1990. Verlander pitched his second career no-hitter at Toronto on May 7. His season reopened debate over whether pitchers can be MVPs.

"I think that a starting pitcher has to do something special to be as valuable or more so than a position player," Verlander said. "Obviously, having the chance to play in 160-some games in the case of Miguel, they can obviously have a huge impact every day. That's why, I've talked about on my day, on a pitcher's day, the impact we have is tremendous on that game. So you have



In this July 5, 2011 file photo, Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Justin Verlander works against the Los Angeles Angels during the first inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif.

to have a great impact almost every time out to supersede (position players) and it happens on rare occasions, and I guess this year was one of those years."

Verlander, the 2006 AL Rookie of the Year, joined the Brooklyn Dodgers' Don Newcombe as the only players to win all three major awards in their careers.

"I think this set a precedent," Verlander said. "I'm happy that the voters acknowledged that, that we do have a major impact in this game and we can

James, Wade, Anthony, Paul set to lead 4-game tour

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP SPORTS WRITER



LeBron James, Chris Paul, Dwyane Wade and Carmelo Anthony are going home—and bringing friends with them.

With no end to the NBA lockout in sight, the All-Star group is set to lead a four-game "Homecoming Tour," starting with a matchup in James' hometown of Akron, Ohio on Dec. 1, followed by a Dec. 4 game in New Orleans, a Dec. 7 game in Chicago and culminating with a Dec. 10 contest in East Rutherford, N.J.

James, Paul, Wade and Anthony are committed to play in all four games. Proceeds from the tour—which will include events such as food drives, educational outreach programs and clinics in each city—will benefit the four headlining players' charitable foundations, and tour sponsor Google Plus will stream each game live.

"It'll be very neat," Wade told The Associated Press. "First of all, this is something we talked about doing a long time ago as players. To have an opportunity to go to these different cities that we're from, to bring basketball to them at a high level and also have a charitable component in each city and to be with the guys, it'll be cool. It's

something we're looking forward to."

Tickets for the first three games go on sale Tuesday. Tickets for the East Rutherford game will be on sale Wednesday.

The rosters for the four games will likely change considerably in each city. James will play a significant role in organizing the Akron game, as will Paul in New Orleans, Wade in Chicago and Anthony at East Rutherford.

Chris Bosh—who, along with James and Wade, makes up the so-called Big 3 with the Miami Heat, is expected to play in all four games. Bosh, along with James, Wade, the New Orleans guard Paul, the New York Knicks' forward Anthony, Heat forward Udonis Haslem and others have been part of a rigorous training camp in Oregon for players represented by Creative Artists Agency since late last week.

"I'm sore," Wade said. "But that's why we set it up this way. We want to get into work mode. When we get into the tour, we want to play. We want to be equipped to do that. We don't want to just run up and down the court and jack up shots. We want to get into the things we need to do when it comes to strength, defense, all those things you usually do in training camp. So we're getting into that mindset."

There's been no shortage of exhibitions featuring NBA players during

the lockout, which is now in its 21st week and has already led to the cancellation of more than 300 games—roughly one-quarter of a full season.

Talks broke off last week after players declined an offer that the NBA said would have raised salaries considerably, which apparently wasn't enough to convince player reps that it was the right deal.

The principals involved in this say the tour will be different from most off-season exhibitions in many ways, notably the extensive charitable aspects.

"I am so excited to have this opportunity to participate in this tour," Anthony said in a press release. "To couple two of the things I love to do—play basketball and give back—is special. This is just the beginning of a movement to facilitate change in our communities and I am happy to be a part of a group of guys willing to lead the charge."

Events begin Nov. 29 in New York with a court dedication and food drive, before the group moves to Akron for events the following day that include a Wheels for Education program—something James is extensively involved with in an effort to help keep kids from dropping out of high school—and a basketball clinic at the Boys & Girls Club bearing the two-time NBA MVP's name.

be extremely valuable to our team and its success."

Verlander appeared on only 27 ballots and was omitted by Jim Ingraham of The Herald-News in Ohio, who voted Bautista first. Sheldon Ocker of the Akron Beacon Journal voted Verlander eighth.

Ingraham doesn't think pitchers should be eligible.

"I'd wrestled with this for a long time. If I was ever going to vote for pitcher for MVP, it would be him this year," Ingraham said. "He hasn't appeared in 79 percent of their games, any starting pitcher really doesn't appear in 79 percent of his team's games in a year."

"Would you vote for an NFL quarterback for MVP if he only appeared in three of his team's 16 games, which would be 21 percent? So that's part of it. Another part of it is I think they're apples and oranges. The guys that are in there every day, there's a grind to a season that a starting pitcher doesn't, I don't think, experience the way the everyday position players do playing 150, 160 games."

Other pitchers to win MVP and Cy Young in the same year are Newcombe (1956), Los Angeles' Sandy Koufax (1963), St. Louis' Bob Gibson and Detroit's Denny McLain (1968), Oakland's Vida Blue (1971), Milwaukee's Rollie Fingers (1981) and Detroit's Willie Hernandez (1984).

Since Mickey Cochrane (1934), Hank Greenberg (1935, 1940) and Charley Gehring (1937), all Tigers voted MVP have been pitchers, with Verlander joining Hal Newhouser (1944 and 1945), McLain and Hernandez.

"He deserved it," Tigers general manager Dave Dombrowski said. "He should have won it, but I didn't know how voters would respond because the talk of some people not wanting to vote for a pitcher."

"I am really proud of the work we're doing in Akron and know what this tour means for the community," James said.

Paul will host an education-themed event and a clinic in New Orleans on Dec. 2, in advance of the game there two nights later. Wade hosts two events for charity in Chicago on Dec. 6, and another clinic is planned for New York on Dec. 9.

"Being able to play the game I love alongside my friends ... as well as raising money for charity is a win-win situation," Paul said.

Wade said another element he's looking forward to is simply being around NBA players on a full-time basis again, if only for a couple of weeks. While he remains hopeful that much of the season can be saved, he's also not necessarily optimistic that he'll be back in a Heat uniform again and trying for another NBA finals trip anytime soon.

"We're approaching it as basketball," Wade said. "We're not doing it so people don't forget our names. We're really doing this to continue to make an impact in the communities that we go to and also to show that we love this game, we're going to continue to play it and that this is something we all decided to do together. So that's what makes this special."

Gaiana-B, Echoserong Kamote's take 1st place in B Leagues

SEDA
Saipan Electronic Dart Association

Bar Gaia's Gaiana-B and Echoserong Kamote's finished their respective Saipan Electronic Dart Association's B-Flame Tree and B-Fanihi seasons in first place after the conclusion of last Thursday's final regular season games.

B-Flame Tree's Gaiana-B clinched first place with a clutch 13-2 road victory over Chagi Sang (108-102) at D'Pirates Bar to finish its season with a win-loss record of 131-79.

Gaiana-B grabbed first place by just a game as second-ranked D'Pirates' Sabalu (130-80) came up a little short, despite a 12-3 romping of Why Not (55-155) at Jonny's Bar & Grill.

In other results, One Shot (112-98) finished in third place, defeating sister team Skorgazzums (85-125), 11-4, in a home draw at Joe's Steakhouse; and D'Pirates' Lucky Dart (106-104) pulled off an 8-7 road upset over Na'Gupu (106-104) at Naked Fish Bar & Grill.

In Thursday's B-Fanihi finale, Echoserong absorbed a 6-9 road upset to sister team SOS Akiramenai (127-83) at Es'y



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bar Gaia's Gaiana-B snagged first place in SEDA's B-Flame Tree division over D'Pirates Bar's Sabalu with a 13-2 victory over D'Pirates' Chagi Fan in the final round of the regular season held last Thursday.

Kitchen, but still finished in first place in the standings with a 130-80 slate.

SOS finished strong in second place ahead of Gaia's World-B (124-86), which downed Jonny's Sekid (76-134), 10-5, at home.

Meanwhile, No Fear (97-113)

defeated Oh Yeah! (72-138), 8-7, in a road draw at Joe's, while VFW Post 3457's Dutty Gunz (119-91) were awarded an easy 8-0 win via a forfeit against Es'y's Kitchen Shooters (88-122).

Both B-Division fields will take a week off before the first

round of the Bud Light Cup post-season tournament begins on Dec. 1.

In other news, Team CUC topped second-ranked AG's Sakude (130-80), 11-4, in an away draw at Jonny's last Friday to continue its reign atop the SEDA Inter-Govern-

ment Legague.

CUC improved to a 152-58 slate and stretched its lead to 22 games.

In addition, DYS Atdit (114-96) defeated DPW Troubleshooters (86-124), 10-5, on the road at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill, while DPS Enforcers (75-135) snuck past NMC Proa (58-152), 8-7, in a home draw at Jonny's.

On Monday, A-division's Mixed Bloodshooters 1 bested Wild Bill's Troubleshooters, 12-5, at home to improve to 158-97.

Mixed Blood holds a five-game lead in the standings ahead of Celebrity (153-102) with D'Pirates' Bud Brothers (147-108) in third place.

Fortunately for the front-runners, both Celebrity and Bud Brothers dropped identical 8-9 home upsets to Proofers (115-

140) and Ali'I Kamote's (134-121) of Naked Fish, respectively.

In other results, Naked Fish's Naked Fish Boys (129-126) edged D'Pirates' Predators (127-128), 9-8, at home and the Primos (111-144) defeated Gaia's Gaiana-A (94-161), 10-7, in a home draw at VFW.

Also on Monday, Try Luck continued its sheer dominance in the Ladies League, skunking Joe's Daffodils (59-166), 15-0, at home.

Try Luck boasts a 49-game chokehold on the division with an impressive 189-36 record.

Runner-up Man Amigas (140-85) defeated third-ranked Joe's Just Like That (108-117), 10-5, on the road, while Jonny's Island Girls (103-122) bested D'Pirates Star Magic (76-149), 9-6 at home.

GBL-IT&E Cup suspended for a week



The Garapan Basketball League-IT&E Cup's three-leg

series postponed its schedule for this week as organizers are still waiting to collect entrance fees from several participating teams.

"The games have been postponed a week to make sure all the teams settle their outstanding entrance fee balances. This is an unfortunate break in the action, but rest assured the season will continue next week," said GBL league director Rey Perez.

PAIRE

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game in Pool A at 1pm, MP United girls U15 will take on Shirley's FC girls U15. Victors of the Pool A games this Saturday will march into the Final Four round. The top finisher in Pools A and B will battle for the championship on Dec. 10, also at Hopwood.

Meanwhile, the FA Cup for boys U15 and U18 and two women's squads will start on Dec. 3.

The separate FC Cup for this group is also divided into two pools. Pool A has MP United U15 Blue, Matansa boys U15,

Paire boys U18, MP United boys U18, and Paire women's squad. MP United U15 Silver, Matansa boys U18, Tan Holdings boys U15, Paire boys U15, and Shirley's FC women's team comprised Pool B.

Four games will be played at the start of the FA Cup with MP United Blue taking on Matansa boys U15 at 8:30am at the Oleai Sports Complex. In the second match at 11am, also at the Oleai pitch, Tan Holdings boys U15 will challenge Paire boys U15.

Over at Hopwood, MP United boys U18 will meet Paire's women's team at 8:30am, while Matansa boys U18 will square off against Shirley's FC women's team at 11am.

Tribune Sports Scores

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	3	0	.700	293	203
N.Y. Jets	5	5	0	.500	228	217
Buffalo	5	5	0	.500	237	253
Miami	3	7	0	.300	193	186

South

Houston	7	3	0	.700	273	166
Tennessee	5	5	0	.500	203	195
Jacksonville	3	7	0	.300	125	180
Indianapolis	0	10	0	.000	131	300

North

Baltimore	7	3	0	.700	256	176
Pittsburgh	7	3	0	.700	220	179
Cincinnati	6	4	0	.600	236	195
Cleveland	4	6	0	.400	145	193

West

Oakland	6	4	0	.600	235	254
Denver	5	5	0	.500	205	247
San Diego	4	6	0	.400	236	259
Kansas City	4	6	0	.400	144	252

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	6	4	0	.600	250	206
N.Y. Giants	6	4	0	.600	228	228
Philadelphia	4	6	0	.400	237	213
Washington	3	7	0	.300	160	205

South

New Orleans	7	3	0	.700	313	228
Atlanta	6	4	0	.600	235	213
Tampa Bay	4	6	0	.400	182	268
Carolina	2	8	0	.200	225	286

North

Green Bay	100	0	1.000	355	212
Detroit	7	3	0	.700	301
Chicago	7	3	0	.700	268
Minnesota	2	8	0	.200	200

West

San Francisco	9	1	0	.900	256	145
Seattle	4	6	0	.400	168	209
Arizona	3	7	0	.300	190	236
St. Louis	2	8	0	.200	120	247

Yesterday's Game

New England 34, Kansas City 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KANG

From Page 28

15, 2011), and the 400m IM

GOLDEN

From Page 28

the three men's doubles and two women's doubles.

Golden Racquet's Edwin Maratas and Annarose Omori downed Hapi Gabriel and Elma Labuson in the mixed doubles A, 21-13, 21-19; Noli Santos and Babes Cielo swept Aries Cordero and Jaja Samonte in the mixed doubles B, 21-13, 21-15; and Kanata Omori and Chris Obaldo edged Jexler Caranto and Windy Fernandez in the mixed doubles C, 21-13, 18-21, 21-5.

In the

MISO Girls Basketball League

PHOTOS AND TEXT By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



The Marianas High School cheerleaders root for the Lady Dolphins during Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship against the Saipan Southern High School Lady Rays.



Several Marianas High School Lady Dolphins wait at the scoring table to check into Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship against the Saipan Southern High School Lady Rays held at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.



Marianas High School's Jaime Mendoza cuts a piece of the net after the conclusion of Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship against Saipan Southern High School.



Saipan Southern High School's Czarina Lizama drives to the hoop in Saturday's MISO girls basketball semifinals against the Saipan International School Lady Geckos.



Marianas High School's Jeraldine Castillo tries drives past Saipan Southern High School's Czarina Lizama during Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship.



Saipan International School's Phalai Frink goes up strong to the basket in Saturday's MISO girls basketball semifinals against Saipan Southern High School.



Marianas High School's Jeralyn Castillo clears out a loose ball in Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship against Saipan Southern High School.



Saipan Southern High School's Vanessa Bortolo takes a shot in Saturday's MISO semifinal match against Saipan International School.



Marianas High School's Lia Rangamar cuts a piece of the net after the conclusion of Saturday's MISO girls basketball championship against Saipan Southern High School.



**Brady throws
2 TD passes,
Pats beat
Chiefs**
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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Verlander wins
AL MVP, 1st
starter in
25 years**
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28 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kang, Tan break records in swim circuit



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three more records fell during the second leg of the Tsunami Swim Circuit Series held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Lukas Kang, who had two record-breaking swims in the first leg on Nov. 12, shattered two more marks in the CNMI boys U8 age group last weekend, while Angel Marie Tan made up for her slow start at the beginning of the series with one record in the second leg.

Eight-year-old Kang com-

pleted the 100m butterfly event in 1:22.63 to reset his previous record of 1:28.95 made on Feb. 4, 2011. Then in the 50m breaststroke, the Garapan Elementary School student timed in at 45.75 seconds to surpass the 46.53 Ryuto Yanai posted on May 27, 2011.

In the first leg, Kang logged



Tan

1:23.74 in the 100m backstroke event to break the 1:26.54 he submitted on Feb. 5, 2011. The Tsunami Saipan swimmer also raced in the 50m freestyle and clocked in at 34.33 seconds to eclipse the 36.18 seconds mark of Ryuto Yanai (April 16, 2011), but Yanai eventually kept the mark, as he did



the same race and timed in at 33.85 seconds.

With his three records this month, Kang now owns seven CNMI age group marks. The list also includes the 50m backstroke (40.82 seconds), 100m breaststroke (1:40.77), 50m butterfly (37.36 seconds), and 200m individual

medley (3:04.92). Meanwhile, Tan now holds five CNMI records in the girls 11 to 12 age group after setting a new one in the 50m backstroke. He finished the race in 35.92 seconds, chopping off .04 of a second from the previous record of Saipan Swim Club's Myana Welch, who timed in at 35.96 seconds on April 26, 2002.

Tan's four other girls 11 to 12 marks are from the 50m breaststroke (39.06 seconds/April 15, 2011), 200m breaststroke (2:59.37/Feb. 5, 2011), 50m butterfly (34.39 seconds/Oct.

See KANG on Page 26

Paire, MP United oust opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire FC U12 and MP United U12 advanced to the next round of the 2011 Boys and Girls FA Cup (co-ed U12 and girls U15) after beating separates foes last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Paire U12 won over Tan Holdings FC U12, 4-0, while MP United U12 edged Matansa FC U12, 3-2.

John Auther scored twin goals for Paire, while Gideon Borja and Herald Lee added one apiece. Auther made both goals in the first half, while Borja also nailed his lone goal in the opening 30 minutes of the match. Lee gave Paire its only goal in the second half.

In the MP United-Matansa



Paire U12's John Auther, left, dribbles to the sideline against a Tan Holdings FC defender during their game in the FA Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

pairing, Moris Villanueva also tallied two goals for the former, while Alex Park hit one. All of MP United's goals were drilled in the first half. Matansa had one apiece in the first and second half with James Ermitanio finding the back of the net in the 22nd minute and then scoring his second goal in the 51st.

MP United is in Pool B of the FA Cup, which is being held to culminate the fall season of the NMIFA youth league. MP United U12 will next duel Tan Holdings FC girls U15 this Saturday at 3pm at the Hopwood pitch.

Other pairing in Pool B is Paire girls U15 versus Matansa girls U15 and these two teams will also play this Saturday at 1pm. Winners of the two Pool B matches will advance to the FA Cup semifinals that will take place on Dec. 5 in Hopwood.

In Pool A, opening-day winner Paire co-ed U12 will collide against Shirley's FC U12 this Saturday at 3pm. In the first

See PAIRE on Page 26

Golden Racquet splits assignments

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Golden Racquet Badminton Club had mixed results in last weekend's 5th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

Golden Racquet, which pulled off a 17-

16 win over TAGA in Week 1, completed its second assignment and won over Shirley's Badminton Club last Saturday, 19-14, and then lost to front-runner Saipan Badminton Club, 13-20, last Sunday.



Against Shirley's, Golden Racquet took seven of the 11 matches, sweeping the mixed doubles and winning two of

See GOLDEN on Page 26



Golden Racquet's Jen Savellano, who teamed up with Marylyn Montano, returns to Saipan Badminton Club's Heo In Souk and Sunja Kim during their women's doubles B game in the Traders Insurance competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Over 100 runners in Turkey Trot tomorrow



Northern Marianas Athletics will be holding the 27th Annual Mt.

Tapochao Thanksgiving Day

Turkey Trot Fun Run tomorrow with the association expecting over 100 runners joining the traditional race.

The 4.2-mile run to the highest peak on the island will start at 6am at Lower Base. Registration begins at 5am with \$7 and \$10 entry fees for U18 and adult runners, respectively.

Last year's race drew about 100 participants led by top overall finisher and open division

winner Keum Bae Ji (39:22). Mamiko Oshima-Berger timed in at 42:55 to rule the women's division and will be gunning for her fourth straight championship tomorrow.

Other division winners in last year's race were Joshalyn Flores, John Auther, Reylynn Sapong, Michael Mancao, Butch Sublemente, Rebecca Iseman, Amber Sarkkinen, Adam Whitty, Joe Auther, Marcia Schultz, and Caesar Danao.

For more information about Turkey Trot, contact Elias Rangamar at eli_rang@yahoo.com. or Robin Sapong at sapong@pticom.com. (PR)